

THE JOURNAL

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Man About Town Gathering revives the 1950s Berkeley jazz scene [A3]

Sports Cougar nine squeezes out 1-0 win over Gauchos [C1]

Contra Costa Civic remodel's a really big show

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER
EL CERRITO — Thirty-one years after its first curtain call, the Contra Costa Civic Theatre is undergoing \$650,000 in renovations that should extend its life another half-century.

The theater, at 951 Pomona Ave., is the second the nonprofit theater company has occupied after moving from a building on San Pablo Avenue and Blake Street in 1971. The exterior and interior renovations for the theater, a former Boys Club building, should be completed by next fall. Marvin Collins Construction is doing the work.

"I think it's going to be great, all these changes," said Louis Flynn, who starred in the theater's first production, the wartime comedy "Dear Ruth," and is

a founder of CCCT. "It means the forward thinking of the organization."

Current renovations include a redesigned and expanded lobby, with better access to the concession area; a sheltered entryway and box office foyer to protect

patrons from the rain; an enlarged and reconfigured office space, an enlarged multi-purpose room and a larger rehearsal space. The seats in the theater were all removed and reuphol-

See CCCT, Page A9

THEATER INFORMATION

For more information about Contra Costa Civic Theatre, call 510-524-6654.

Advocates work at pushing commuters into Bay

Advocates see a Berkeley-San Francisco ferry service as a viable alternative to congested highways

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER
ALBANY — Albany resident Holan sees a possible ferry near Gilman Street in Berkeley as not just a comfortable means of transportation with scenic views, but a way to clean the area, provide open space at the waterfront and get people out of their cars. And she's not alone.

The advocacy group Friends of Albany Ferry, formed just months ago, is hoping to convince residents and government officials that a new ferry line will be just what Berkeley and Albany need to get people out of their cars and help clean up the environment.

"There's a lot of advantages to a ferry," said Holan. "There's no traffic issues, land use issues and it's just the natural beauty of the Bay."

LEARN MORE

Call 510-525-1743 for more information about the Berkeley Ferry Committee or 510-559-9119 for friends of the Albany Ferry.

There will be a short ferry presentation by the Water Transit Authority (WTA), created by the next Albany City Council meeting, 7:30 p.m. Monday at 1000 San Pablo Ave.

"We don't have any major transportation lines out there in Albany," she added. "It would be nice to have a transportation mode that is less dependent on the automobile."

A new ferry line at Berkeley in the next 10 years is becoming more likely, thanks to efforts by the Water Transit Authority (WTA), created by the city in 1999 specifically to masterplan a plan that could create up to 28 ferry terminals in the area.

Friends of the Albany Ferry and the Berkeley Ferry Committee are trying to convince residents and local governments to support a plan locally.

The Berkeley ferry group was created just after the Loma Prieta earthquake in 1989, and the ferry service carried about 1,500 passengers a day, according to FERRY, Page A9

See FERRY, Page A9

INDEX

Area Reports A2
Bay Area Snap A4
Community Folk A5
C3
C4
C5
C6
C7
C8

Giving young people a sense of place



AT EL CERRITO'S Teen Activities Center afterschool program at the Community Center, Chris Lewis, 13, left, and Ronald Walker, 14, help make individual cheesecakes that they get to take home with them.

Program gives middle schoolers a safe hangout

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER
EL CERRITO — At the Community Center on Moeser Lane on a recent Monday, some middle school students were learning how to make cheesecake, using some small aluminum bowls and various mixed ingredients. Some other kids were hanging out in the hallway or the multi-purpose room, shooting the breeze, or at times, jokingly hurling insults at each other.

It's another day at the city's teen club, where some middle school students go after school to have a place to call their own, and stay out of trouble. "Parents are happy because kids have a safe place to be," said Monica Korts, the city's recreation director, who created the program, "and the community is happy because the kids aren't causing mischief in the neighborhood."

Before the program started,

Portola Middle school students often walked down to the community center to hang out where "mini-fights" broke out, along with other problems that came about with adolescents who were unsupervised, said Korts. The City Council wanted a teen program.

"Not only was it the council's goals to implement something but it was the staff's goals to get

See TEEN, Page A10

EL CERRITO TEEN CLUB

Where: El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane

When: 3 to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 2 to 5 p.m. Wednesday

How much: \$50 per month for teens who go there four days a week, or \$5 per day.

Information: 510-215-4370

Youth cafe provides a home away from home

■ Teens can come and hang out at a relaxed, eco-friendly center

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER
ALBANY — From the outside, it's difficult to see just what Café Eclectica has to offer, except for a few rickety booths with computers sitting on them, some colorful fluorescent murals and artwork, and a bulletin board with pleas from bands looking for new drummers.

Walk inside though, and the cafe emerges from a narrow hallway into a comfortable, almost living room-like environment, with a pool table, arcade game, board games, a dart board, a stereo and plenty of room for punk bands to set up and audiences to sit, mingle and watch, as was the case last Friday.

For nearly two years, the cafe has meant to be a place Albany teenagers can hang out, do



The volunteer staff of high schoolers at Café Eclectica on Solano Avenue hang out on the computers during a quiet moment Tuesday afternoon. The cafe is open in the afternoons and weekends, offering a place for students to hang out, do homework and use computers after school.

homework, mingle, listen to music and maybe grab a bite to eat. About 15 teen-agers volunteer to keep it running.

Not all teens go there, of course, but the ones who do, who just hang out, or volunteer to help run the cafe, create the artwork and otherwise keep the

place running, are enthusiastic and see potential for its growth.

"It's small and cozy, it's better than the bowling place and nobody tells us what to do," said Marius Enachescu, who helps run the cafe as a cafe manager

See CAFE, Page A10

CAFE ECLECTICA

Café Eclectica is located at 1309 Solano Ave. For more information, call 510-527-2344 or check online at http://www.communitylearningservices.org/teen_cafe.htm

Updated play's the thing at Cerrito Vista Park

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER
EL CERRITO — Preschoolers and kindergartners will soon be climbing and sliding their way around new play equipment at Cerrito Vista Park, which is in the final stage of a four-year project that will allow residents of all ages to enjoy the popular recreation area.

The city has been working since 1999 to install new play equipment that is handicapped-accessible, meets state safety standards and replaces old equipment that city officials estimate is about 30 years old.

The equipment is located on the southern tip of the park, which sits at Moeser Lane and Pomona Avenue.

"It will be fantastic," said Monica Korts, recreation director. "It will be nice to look at a park that is totally complete and meeting today's standards."

In 1998, Prospect Sierra School donated its old play equipment to the city, spurring an effort by the city and residents to raise money to get it installed.

The grass roots effort resulted in the installation of the equipment — intended for children in elementary school — two years ago, said Mike Woldemar, of

See PARK, Page A9

School district looking at solutions to AMS traffic

STAFF REPORT

ALBANY — The Albany Unified School District School Board is working on a plan that will mitigate parking and traffic problems around Albany Middle School.

A consultant who studied the area said that problems occur in due to mid-block double-parking along Brighton Avenue between Key Route and Masonic Avenue.

To combat the problem, consultant Fehr & Peers Associates advised the school district to:

■ Redesignate unrestricted spaces near school as passenger loading zone areas to provide more pick-up and drop-off parking;

■ Conduct police sting operations on a typical school day and distribute traffic tickets to vehicles double parking to encourage drivers to use additional parking zones;

■ Provide crossing guards to direct traffic to loading zone areas and to assist pedestrians crossing at the intersection of Brighton and San Gabriel avenues;

See TRAFFIC, Page A9

WORTH CHECKING OUT

Heritage Quilters show

The East Bay Heritage Quilters, an organization of 700-plus members that meets in the First Unitarian Church of Berkeley in Kensington, will be presenting its biennial quilt show, "Voices In Cloth 2002 — An Extraordinary Quilt Show" at the Oakland Convention Center, 550 10th St. in Oakland, on March 16-17. Hours Saturday are 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Admission: Adults \$8; EBHQ Members \$5; Children 5-12 \$3. Details: 510-233-6771

ECHS blood drive

El Cerrito High School holds its spring blood drive on Friday, March 22, in the little gym and asks anyone in the community who would like to donate blood to contact leadership advisor Nancy Boissevain at 510-525-0234. The drive begins at 8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:45 p.m. Students are hoping to break the school record for donations.

Creek and Bay pollution

Lake Merritt's LakeKeeper, Dr. Richard Bailey, will speak about urban runoff and what can be done about this most serious source of Bay Area water pollution at 7 p.m. on Monday, April 1, at the Albany Community Center, 1240 Marin Ave. For more information contact Friends of Five Creeks at 510 848 9358, f5creeks@aol.com, or www.five-creeks.org.

Gateview Dollers

The Gateview Dollers, a club for those interested in modern and antique dolls and dollcare, meets from 7:30 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. on the third Monday of each month (except June and July) at the Albany Senior Center of at a member's home. The club, a member of the United Federation of Doll Clubs is seeking new members. Call 510-223-6534 for the current month's meeting location. This month's topic is "Nutcrackers."

Berkeley Garden Club

Sakae Sakaki will create both Ikebana and Western style arrangements when the Berkeley Garden Club holds its Benefit Spring Tea and Professional Floral Design Demonstration at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, March 19 at the Epworth United Methodist Church, 1953 Hopkins St., (at Napa Avenue), Berkeley. Guests are welcome. Tickets are \$7.50 per person. Order tickets by calling 510-528-4940 or purchase at the door.

Preserving our past

On Sunday, March 17, from 3-6 p.m. the

Berkeley Historical Society will present Threads of Time: Care and Use of Vintage Textiles, an installment of a five-lecture series and accompanying exhibit on "From the Attic: Preserving and Sharing our Past." The series, which will address preserving textiles, papers and photos and creating genealogies and oral histories, takes place at the Veterans Memorial Building, 1931 Center St. in Berkeley. Regular exhibit hours: Thursday through Saturday, 1-4 p.m. The exhibit also includes photos and artifacts. Donations welcome. Details: 510-848-0181

Sound & Movement

"The Languages of Sound & Movement," a Celebrating Culture & Community series being shown on local cable television is featuring "Kalanjall: Dances of India" on CCTV (Contra Costa Television, Channel 27 in West County and Albany. Do those dancers' hand movements and facial expressions actually mean something? Why do they have red painted on their foreheads, hands and feet? And how fast can that drummer's hands move? Discover the answer to these questions, and enjoy the sheer beauty of southern Indian classical dance and music on the Indian episode of the series, directed by Richard R. Lee and produced by Eve A. Ma.

ECDC meeting

The public is invited to attend the upcoming meeting of the El Cerrito Democratic Club at 8 p.m. on Tuesday, March 26, at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury Ave. in El Cerrito. It follows the general business meeting of the Club at 7:30 p.m. There will be a discussion of the ECDC's issues agenda for the upcoming year and scheduling of endorsements for city council, school board, and the November general election. Details: Joe Franzaszek, 510-524-4659.

Home composting

Learn to recycle yard and vegetable trimmings in your own backyard — and never have to buy fertilizer again — with this workshop on home composting. It's March 16, from 10 to 11:30 a.m. at the Arlington Club house, 1120 Arlington Blvd., El Cerrito. To sign up call 510-215-3021

At Gathering Tribes

Susan Lobo, author of "American Indians and the Urban Experience" will be at Gathering Tribes at 1573 Solano Ave., Berkeley on Friday, March 15, from 6:30-8 p.m., along with Larry Rodriguez, Sr., Mike Rodriguez and

Victoria Bomberri, contributors to the book. Lobo will also be at Gathering Tribes on Saturday, March 16 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to sign copies of her book.

Go up a creek

Help a creek that has seen the light at Pointsett Park, from 9 a.m. to noon on March 16, between Pointsett and Rosalind avenues. Five years ago, the Urban Creeks Council daylighted a section of Baxter Creek as it flows through Pointsett Park. The creek was daylighted, the banks were planted with native plants and it now offers habitat to birds, insects and frogs. See a successfully restored creek in El Cerrito, and tend to the willows and other plants installed five years ago. No special skills required. Gloves, snacks and water will be provided. Work will happen rain or shine. Details: Apple Szostak, Aquatic Outreach Institute, 510-231-5778 or apple@aoinsitute.org.

Summer camps

A free summer camp fair will be held on Sunday, March 17, from 1-4:30 p.m. at the Scottish Rite Center, 1547 Lakeside Drive in Oakland. At the Summer Resources Fair, sponsored by the American Association of University Women, families can learn about summer camp options for parents and children. Get information about day and residents camps, specialty camps and family camps. For more information, call Babs Wardwell, 510-525-6312. For a free directory of northern California camps accredited by the American Camping Association call 800-362-2236 or check online at www.aacamps.org.

Preschool stories

The Albany Library presents "Saturday Morning Stories and More" for ages 3-6. The free series runs every Saturday at 11 a.m. through March 16. Details: 510-526-3720.

Music and art benefit

A fundraising event to support Bay Area musicians and artists is set for at 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 17, at the Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St. in Berkeley. The groups affiliated are a small group of classical musicians called B.A.C.H. (Bay Area Classical Harmonies), and the Berkeley Art Center, a non-profit art gallery in North Berkeley. The event will include live classical music, an art exhibit, refreshments, and a silent auction and raffle. Tickets are \$20 general admission, \$12 student/senior admission. Details: e-mail manager@berkeleybach.org.

POLICE REPORTS

S.F. man arrested for disorderly conduct

By K. Osborn

CORRESPONDENT

ALBANY — On the night of March 4 officers located a blue '96 Chevrolet Blazer on the 500 block of Pierce Street that had been reported as stolen from Richmond that morning. They did not have anyone in custody and the vehicle was towed.

■ At about 2 a.m. on March 5 officers contacted a man going through donated items at the Salvation Army parking lot on the 1300 block of Solano Avenue. They arrested the San Francisco resident when a check found he had an outstanding warrant from Berkeley for disorderly conduct and failure to appear in the amount of \$2,000. He was cited and released.

■ On the morning of March 5 a resident on the 600 block of Madison Street reported that unknown vandals had broken the window of his brown '01 Toyota SV. Nothing appeared to have been taken.

■ On the morning of March 5 a resident on the 600 block of Adams Street reported that subjects broke into her white '01 Chevrolet SW during the night. There were no witnesses.

■ A resident on the 700 block of Ramona Avenue reported that vandals had painted graffiti on his motor home during the night of March 4. There were no witnesses.

■ On the morning of March 5 officers took the report on two vehicles, a green '94 Saturn and a white '98 Toyota Corolla, that had been broken into while parked at 545 Pierce Street. There were no witnesses.

■ On the night of March 5 a resident on the 900 block of Solano Avenue reported that thieves had stolen his burgundy Trek mountain bike from his garage. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 12:30 a.m. on March 6 officers stopped a white '00 Volvo near Pomona and Marin avenues for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 56-year-old Berkeley man, was found to be intoxicated. He failed the field sobriety test and was arrested for driving under the influence. He was cited and held to be released when sober.

■ At about 4 a.m. on March 6 officers joined Union Pacific Rail-

road police in the investigation of a man who had been hit by a train just north of the Albany/Berkeley border. The death appeared to have been accidental as opposed to suicidal.

■ Albany officers arrested a student at Albany Middle School for possession of marijuana on the morning of March 6. The Albany boy was released to his grandparents with a notice to appear.

■ On the morning of March 6 officers located a red '93 Honda Civic on the 900 block of Stange Avenue that had been reported as stolen from Richmond several days prior. They did not have anyone in custody and the owner responded and picked up the vehicle at the site.

■ At about 5:45 p.m. on March 6 employees at a video store on the 500 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that three men had just stolen several DVD movies. They were last seen heading north on San Pablo Avenue in a gray Oldsmobile and were gone when officers arrived.

■ On the morning of March 7 a resident on the 900 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that someone broke into his gray '90 Toyota during the night and stole items from inside. There were no witnesses.

■ At about noon on March 7 an Albany woman reported that her blue '86 Honda was stolen while parked on Adams Street. It was being serviced by a local auto repair shop and had been parked on the street.

■ On the morning of March 8 a resident on the 700 block of Solano Avenue reported that someone had unsuccessfully attempted to break into the laundry room and then entered the detached garage through an unlocked door. The thief stole items and departed unseen.

■ Shortly after midnight on March 9 officers stopped a brown Oldsmobile for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 22-year-old Berkeley man, was found to have outstanding warrants from Berkeley and Oakland. He was arrested, cited and released.

■ At about 1:45 a.m. on March 9 Albany officers assisted Berkeley police in apprehending and arresting two men seen

breaking into a car. The officers were seen being caught and found to be in possession of burglary tools.

■ On the morning of March 9 a resident on the 1200 block of Bernal Avenue reported that vandals had torn up his lawn during the night.

■ At about 3 a.m. on March 10 Albany officers contacted someone near Pierce and Stange streets because he was suspiciously. They arrested a 34-year-old Richmond man driving under the influence of a concealed weapon and battery. He was cited and reported to Santa Rita Jail.

■ On the morning of March 10 a resident on the 1000 block of Curtis Street reported that someone broke into her home. Acacia Integra during the night and stole items. There were no witnesses.

■ At about 4:30 a.m. on March 11 officers contacted a woman going through donated items at the Salvation Army Store on the 1300 block of Solano Avenue. A check found that the 35-year-old Richmond resident had an outstanding warrant from San Mateo for possession of a controlled substance in the amount of \$3,000. He was cited and released.

■ On the morning of March 11 a resident on the 400 block of Cornell Avenue reported that during the night thieves had broken into his green '91 Buick Quest. There were no witnesses.

■ On the afternoon of March 11 a resident on the 900 block of Peralta Avenue reported that thieves had stolen his lawnmower from his front yard. There were no witnesses.

During the week of March 11 Albany officers towed vehicles, responded to noise complaints, attended to six car accidents, assisted five people who were locked out of their house or car, and responded to one report of a barking dog in the domestic arena. Officers responded to 15 civil disturbances and 140 civil assists. Officers issued 75 cars and/or persons citations and 40 citations and warnings. Albany firefighters and medics responded to six emergencies.

ALBANY CHAMBER NOTES

Albany needs to pull together in school crisis

By James Carter

Wei ji is the Chinese term for "crisis." Though words are defined largely by their context, English/Chinese dictionaries suggest that though wei ji means crisis, ji itself is translated as "opportunity."

Of course, language is complex and not easily reduced to simple terms. Yet the relationship between "crisis" and "opportunity" is clear. A crisis presents an opportunity, if only we can recognize it and act.

We are facing a crisis in Albany that threatens to change the very character of our town. Our schools are in trouble. A severe financial emergency recently forced school board members to make very difficult decisions that will affect the quality of education in our town.

The district has had \$1.5 million was slashed from its \$22 million budget. Many programs that draw families to Albany — including, but not limited to music and the arts — were cut or drastically reduced in size.

This is not the first time we have faced a financial crisis in our schools. In the past, mem-

bers of our community — all of them volunteers — rolled up their sleeves, pitched in, and found the money and resources to maintain such programs for our children ...

Wei ji and ji wei — crisis and opportunity ...

THERE IS A SAYING among those who are consistently involved in community service: If you need a volunteer, call someone who is busy.

And so the phone is always ringing at Jewel Okawachi's home. In Albany, we are blessed to have many individuals such as Jewel, people who step forward and volunteer their time for the good of the city — folks like Ray Anderson, Karen Kalns-Olson, John Ely, Ruth Ganong, Andy Heffernon, Allen Maris, Dianne McNenny, Dario Meniketti, Sally Outis, Paul Rockwell, Jack Rosano, Thelma Rubin, and Marsha Skinner, to name just a few.

The crisis we now face provides all of us the opportunity to follow their example and do something for the good of our town. There is plenty of work to be done, a dozen different groups struggling to accomplish a dozen different goals.

Yet success is certain if we all set aside our differences, be-

they political or personal. We will find solutions and have fun doing it if we overcome the territorial tendency so common among all of us forced to seek funding for so many different worthy causes. And we can all experience the joy that comes from knowing we can make a difference, if we are willing to work together for the good of our children, for the good of our city.

It is in that spirit that we invite all community groups — especially those that serve young people — to play whatever role they can in our first Spring Festival, a wonderful afternoon in the sun we are calling "A Taste of Albany."

Ten of the best restaurants in town will be providing samples of their marvelous menus at Memorial Park on Sunday, June 2. Twenty percent of all advance ticket sales made by community groups will go directly to those organizations.

See CHAMBER, Page A6

Witnesses chase and catch suspected wallet thief

By Alan Lopez

STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — A man was arrested on suspicion of stealing a wallet from a business on San Pablo Avenue after he was chased down by witnesses and detained at Cypress and South 53rd streets. Witnesses said they saw the man take the wallet from under a desk in an office. He was arrested on suspicion of felony theft with prior convictions.

■ A man was arrested on suspicion of shoplifting at a store on the 11400 block of San Pablo Avenue after he was detained by store security at 1:30 p.m. on March 9. He was booked into the county jail for felony theft with prior convictions.

■ A woman was arrested on suspicion of grand theft after being detained by store security for shoplifting at a store on the 11400 block of San Pablo Avenue at 8:45 p.m. on March 10.

■ A man was arrested on suspicion of possessing methamphetamine at Carlson Boulevard and El Dorado Street during a pedestrian stop at 12:20 p.m. on March 4.

■ A woman was arrested on suspicion of possessing a vehicle stolen from San Pablo during a traffic stop at San Joaquin Street and Central Avenue at 2 p.m. on March 9.

■ A woman reported at 11:58 a.m. on March 4 that her purse was taken from an unlocked vehicle at El Cerrito Plaza.

■ Several power tools and a men's bike were reported stolen from a home on the 200 block of Carmel Avenue at 12:45 p.m. on Feb. 18.

■ A stereo face plate was reported stolen from a vehicle on the 8100 block of Terrace Drive at 10:40 a.m. on March 2.

■ A man stole 40 cans of formula at an El Cerrito business at 6:40 p.m. on March 3. Witnesses said the man pulled the 40 cans in a 72-quart container, walked out and drove away.

■ Two chainsaws and tools were reportedly stolen from a campershell from the block of Scott Street at 11:00 a.m. on March 3.

■ The left passenger seat of a vehicle on the 2600 block of Tuller Avenue was reported stolen at 10:41 a.m. on March 3.

■ It was reported on March 4 at 5:08 p.m. that a counterfeit bill was passed at a business on the 10600 block of San Pablo Avenue.

■ It was reported at 12:00 a.m. on March 2 that the front

See POLICE, Page A6

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BRIEF

Castro School hosts Scholastic Book Fair

CASTRO — Parents can help encourage their children's love of reading when the Scholastic Book Fair comes to Castro Elementary School, 7125 Donal Ave., on March 18-22 with books and educational learning products from more than 150 publishers for children of all ages. The fair is open to the community. The book fair features traditional children's favorites and new titles by popular authors and illustrators. Parents and teachers will be interested to see, too. The fair is open daily from 12-3 p.m. and from 7-8:30 p.m. on Thursday, the school's Open House. The fair is welcome.

Providing classroom libraries is one goal of the book fair. Visitors are encouraged to donate requested books for any classroom's library.

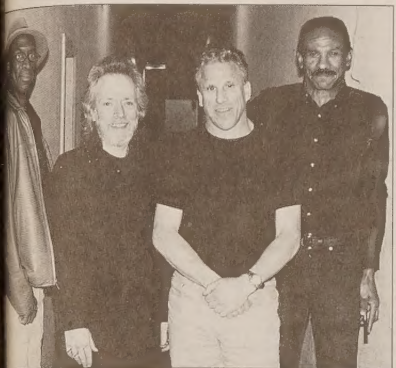
The book fair helps Castro promote learning while raising money for school projects.

Fun around at Kensington Library

KENSINGTON — Come to the Kensington Library at 7 p.m. Tuesday, March 26, to watch "Duffy Dave" perform goofy tricks and stunts around. All ages are welcome. Because attendance is limited, tickets will be issued beginning Monday, March 19, during library hours.

The Kensington Library is located at 61 Arlington Ave.. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Kensington Library. The library is open from 1-6 p.m. Mondays, from noon-8 p.m. Tuesdays, closed Wednesdays, open from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, regularly closed on Sundays and holidays. The phone number is 510-524-3043.

If you have a question that can be answered by phone, you may call 510-524-3043 or 1-800-984-4636 from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The book line is available at the same number for telephone renewal of books and materials. The library web page is located at www.kensingtonlib.org.



MEMBERS Michael Warren, Harvey Mandel, Michael Borbridge and Freddie Roulette will be joined by special guest Henry Kaiser when they play March 22 at Shattuck Down

the blues (and rock) in the night

WHELEY — Local blues/rock band NightFire, featuring Har- mandel, Freddie Roulette, Michael "Bones" Borbridge, Michael and special guest guitar virtuoso Henry Kaiser plays at 9 p.m. March 22 at Shattuck Down Low, 2284 Shattuck Ave. in Berkeley. There is an \$8 cover charge. Details: 510-548-1159.

Rotary will honor three students

ALBANY — In February the Albany Rotary Club initiated a new award of honoring local "Students of the Semester." The first winners were recognized and awarded plaques at the club's Feb. 12.

Three students who won the award were: Casey Osborne, an eighth grade student at Albany Middle School, who is an honor roll student, student body president, and the girl's basketball team. She puts in many extra hours to build a positive school climate through activities at the

middle Corriea is the student of the semester from Albany's Senior High School. She is a straight "A" student, and was cited for a great loyalty to her school and always having a positive attitude. She has been employed throughout her high school and dreams of becoming a master chef some day. David Song is a senior at Albany High School. He has been

See BRIEFS, Page A6

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Oxtot memorial brings out traditional jazz crowd

The traditional jazz crowd gathered recently in remembrance of the late Richard "Dick" Oxtot, one of the Bay Area's most respected and beloved musicians.

Dick, who passed away last December, would have been 84 on March 4, a couple of days after some 200 musicians, friends and fans assembled to honor the instrumentalist, vocalist, composer and band-leader.

Holding a party with jazz bands to honor the deceased is an old New Orleans tradition. After playing hymns and dirges before the funeral services, the bands strike up lively tunes on the march from the gravesite back to the lodge hall, where they play some more and the partying begins. The local jazz community has carried on the latter part of the tradition for many years.

The event was held in the Moose Lodge in San Pablo, where the New Orleans Jazz Club of Northern California often holds its monthly meetings. Dick played the banjo and sang with his Golden Age Jazz Band at many of the club's meetings over the years, always drawing a large crowd.

Friends and fans who had drifted from the epicenter of Bay Area traditional jazz returned to join hands and hearts and remember the years they spent listening to Dick's performances and bands. Enriched by his appreciation of bluegrass, folk, country, Western swing and big band swing, his bands always played his personalized conception of New Orleans jazz.

A fine singer, Dick also used his hands, it could also be said, as another voice. In the complex and fluid format of classic jazz where players improvise both individually and as a group, he was still able to shape and present his musical ideas with clarity and unfailing emotional impact.

I first heard Dick Oxtot on record in the early '50s when I was an undergraduate at Yale University in New Haven, Conn. The revival of New Orleans jazz, begun in the Bay Area by the Lu Watters Yerba Buena Jazz Band, had swept the country. Every college campus had at least one revival band, and Yale had three good ones.

Most of these groups emulated, at least in some respects, the Watters band. So it was a real surprise to me to hear the recordings of a band from Watters country with a completely original sound. I was fascinated



MAL SHARPE sings with his band at the memorial for Dick Oxtot, backed by Bill DeKuiper on guitar, Jim Gammon on trumpet, Dick Hadlock on soprano sax and Marty Eggers on bass.



DAVE GREER
Man About Town

by Dick's driving, Bunk Johnson-inspired cornet, his distinctive tone, and the assurance and swagger of these unknowns. I found them far more exciting than the powerful but ponderous Watters aggregation or the stale New York Dixielanders whom they had upstaged.

Reading that Dick was going to play with the touring Dixieland Rhythm Kings at the Tip Top Club in Bridgeport, Conn., I was wild to go and hear him. But I had no transportation, and the "townie" whom I was dating did not trust her '36 Plymouth — and possibly me — that far. So I did not hear Dick Oxtot at the Tip Top Club, something I regret after almost half a century of hearing him in person.

THE BERKELEY SCENE: When I arrived in Berkeley in 1955, there were revival jazz bands performing somewhere every night of the week and more than one could take in on a Friday or Saturday. The band I liked best was the Bearcats with Dick now playing banjo and singing. Trombonist Bob Mielke was the bandstand leader of this group against

which all others have since been measured.

Dick still played some cornet with the Bearcats and on jobs of his own. He also performed and sang at the large jazz parties that musicians, their families, friends, and hard-core fans frequently held in their homes. These gatherings, attended by 80 to 100 or more people, took fire in the afternoons, roared through the evening, and smoldered into the morning hours.

They were remarkable events musically and socially. We were mostly poor, but our doors were open to all, and hosts provided plenty of "day old" French bread, spaghetti or red beans and rice, and cheap wine. Dollar-a-gallon Sargent burgundy was the house wine in the big old Victorian space where I roomed with the late piano and trumpet player Bill "Willie the Master" Erickson. At our parties there were sometimes bands playing in the front room, the kitchen, and the backyard. Bliss it was to be young and a member of the Berkeley jazz crowd.

These frequent gatherings were graced by some of the distinguished black musicians who were performing in the late teens and 20's, the Golden Age of jazz. Amos White, who was a bandsman on the Mississippi River paddle-wheelers, played his trumpet and sang "Old-Fashioned Love" with such purity of feeling that many of us had need of our

handkerchiefs. (Yes, people still carried them then.)

Clarinetist Frank "Big Boy" Goudie, who lived and recorded with other famous jazz expatriates in France, was a regular at these assemblies. The great Darnell Howard set high standards for the young reed men, as did Clem Raymond, Wellman Braud, Duke Ellington's long-time string bass player, and Pops Foster, bassist in many famous bands including Luis Russell's, both helped swing these parties. Aside from being first-rate performers, they were all real gentlemen of jazz from an area before it became "cool" to disrespect audiences.

LISTENING TO JANIS: Of the many singers Dick Oxtot brought out of obscurity, Janis Joplin became the best-known and the most often asked about. If it hadn't been for her voice, I doubt any of us would have remembered her being at Dick's parties. She wasn't much to look at, she didn't socialize, and she drank little if at all. She came to jazz.

However, she did listen to the musicians and took instruction well, which is not always the case with singers. I remember Erickson, who was playing piano in a group backing her, stopping her several times and having her start the tune again. But when she did get going, she was almost literally electrifying. I never heard a voice

See GREER, Page A5

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Opinion

EDITORIAL

Don't reject opportunity

The deal returning the Raiders to Oakland has muddied local politics for the better part of eight years and it threatens to muddy talks only now gaining momentum on building a baseball-only ballpark for the Oakland A's.

Already one candidate for political office has called the city-financed study on possible locations for a new stadium a waste of money. It is a knee-jerk, but understandable reaction in light of the Raiders aftermath. But it is also a reaction with which we strongly disagree.

We owe it to ourselves, we owe it to Oakland's place in the greater region to at least see what can be put together before deciding the merits of pursuing a new home for the A's.

The A's have been a presence here since 1968, and are part of a professional baseball heritage in Oakland that dates back to 1903.

The vision of a baseball-only stadium and the three million fans (during baseball season alone) it could bring to the "uptown" area by the Fox Oakland Theatre, an area convenient to public transit and ripe for new development, is enticing. It would create opportunities for the surrounding area and would logically attract new investment.

Of course there are daunting obstacles to such a vision, not the least of which is the cost, estimated to exceed \$350 million.

That is where visions of the costly Raiders deal arise.

But this doesn't have to be a Raiders deal. We owe it to ourselves to see what is possible with a well-thought out plan put together by not only Oakland, not only Alameda County, but the greater East Bay, all working toward a common goal. It may not be possible, and it certainly won't be easy, but the opportunity is here after recent years when it looked like all efforts were behind taking the team out of Oakland.

It will take the best efforts of the A's, the city, the county and the business community to even be possible, but that doesn't mean the effort should be rejected before it even starts.

A poor way to bike safety

STATE SEN. TOM TORLAKSON, D-Antioch, an avid bicyclist, has taken aim at a serious threat to the health and safety of those who share his love of pedaling caused by reckless motorists. The senator wants to add \$4 to the usual fine for every moving vehicle violation, from running a red light to speeding.

The goal is commendable. The proposed legislation is troublesome.

This is no plea to go easy on people who drive recklessly.

The sticky point is not the \$4 add-on penalty. It's the lack of a close connection between the motor vehicle violation and bicycle safety.

The \$4 boost could bring in an estimated \$10 million a year. The money would be used to set up a Pedestrian and Bicyclist Mobility and Safety Fund. The fund, administered by the state Department of Health Services, would go toward safety education and fitness awareness.

These are good things to have. They are undoubtedly being provided in one way or another by various existing agencies.

But fines are meant to nick the offender for his or her illegal action, painfully enough, hopefully, to bring about a change for the better in specific behavior.

What an errant driver will see in this extra \$4 on top of the usual fine is simply an easy way for the government to tap a new revenue source.

Instead of being financially prodded to shape up, a motorist may be nettled by a perceived unfairness. We don't need another incentive for road rage.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Exciting asset

I was excited to learn that a historic theater had been rediscovered in El Cerrito, doing dusty duty as a furniture warehouse for all these years. What an opportunity for our community!

Our town has been critiqued for lacking a center and a focus. A renovated, active local theater would give El Cerritos a greater sense of identity and pride. As a movie theater, it could be a valuable local resource. If publicly owned, it could serve as a local community activity center.

I think we need a series of open houses and community meetings that would allow the community to see our old theater ... clean it up and use the stage for some meetings and presentations, so that people will understand what we have and make their own decisions. I'm sure people will support it if they can visualize the potential!

We have an opportunity now to rescue and revive the Cerrito Theater. Let's not let this chance slip away.

Linda Cain
El Cerrito

Preserve theater

I hope El Cerrito takes advantage of this precious opportunity to preserve the Cerrito Theater as an historical and cultural asset.

Even without the Parkway Theater deal, the acquisition, restoration and use of the building as a community resource will distinguish and grace our town and keep it from deteriorating into a cheap, bland, faceless suburb.

The new El Cerrito Plaza is beautiful — let's keep the ball rolling.

Joni Hiramoto
El Cerrito

Corporate welfare

President Bush's latest proposal to increase the military budget by \$48 billion puts military contractors on the top of his list of "most favored corporations."

This comes on top of 2002 military spending of \$15 billion on nuclear weapons and \$8 billion on ballistic missile defense (Star Wars), which will do nothing to protect us against terrorist threats. But it's keeping the CEOs of major military contractors flush with multi-million-dollar salaries and impenetrable retirement plans.

A recent National Priorities Project report (www.nationalpriorities.org) points out our misguided spending priorities and includes last year's tax cut to the richest 3 percent will cost the federal budget close to \$10 billion.

This handout occurs when 14 percent of Californians live in poverty and 19 percent have no health insurance. These most recently available figures don't even account for the growing effects of the recession.

Federal tax cuts coupled with 53 percent of the federal discretionary proposed budget going to the military and a slowing economy will take millions from state coffers. Our national security should not serve as an excuse for more corporate welfare.

Betty Brown
Kensington

Acknowledge Taiwan

While it is encouraging to know that China may change its attitude toward Taiwan, it's important that readers realize Taiwan, in fact, is not part of China. Moreover, the majority of Taiwanese have no desire to have Taiwan become part of China, a country that has no democracy, no human rights, and well behind in its economic growth.

Taiwan endured more than 60 years of political struggle, sacrifice, and the loss of numerous lives to be where it is now. Today, Taiwan proudly stands with a democratic government that is truly of the people, by the people, and for the people. Taiwan should be recognized as a nation that is independent of China.

History tells the true story. Taiwan has been history part of China. It is about time China wakes up and accepts the truth and the reality. It is also time for the United States and the rest of the world to acknowledge that Taiwan is a country with its own rights.

Stop China from bullying the Taiwanese!

Pam Tsai
Albany

Good for profits

I can make a couple of points regarding President Bush's proposal to increase the military budget.

One point is that the elder Bush, along with his colleagues, will be pleased with his son's proposal because they are in the weapons business. Should this proposal pass, it would certainly serve to increase their fortunes and make them so proud. Second, it just stands to reason, if one intends to talk loudly and toughly, one should "carry a big stick."

Ron Greenstein
El Cerrito

Israeli heroes

For a year and a half, Israel and the Palestinians have been locked in a bloody embrace of mutual terrorism.

As the toll of slaughter and destruction has mounted, there have been few heroes on either side — until now!

Last month, 53 reserve combat soldiers in the Israeli army publicly announced their refusal to "dominate, expel, starve and humiliate an entire people." Bearing witness that they have been issued commands "that had the sole purpose of perpetuating" Israeli control over the Palestinian people, the soldiers declared they would take no part in the

Army's "missions of occupation and repression."

During the past few weeks, at least 200 soldiers have added their names to this declaration. They demonstrated rare courage.

Women and men of goodwill can sign a petition of support online at www.servu.org.

Joseph K.
Berkeley

No more for defense

I disagree with President Bush's proposal to increase the military budget by \$48 million.

We already have a large enough budget for defense. Let's spend it well and let's cut every other segment of government spending.

We have too much waste, especially protecting birds, animals, bugs, fish, weeds. Let's use our water for parks, gardens, forests, parks and farms.

Let's stop the eco freaks.

Ella J.
El Cerrito

For Perata proposal

State Sen. Don Perata's modest proposal for a "traffic relief toll" to expand public transit alternatives is a step in the right direction. There are a couple of points people should consider about bridge tolls.

Adjusted for inflation, the Bay Area toll is about 90 percent below what it was when the bridge opened. Any parking manager shows better business sense than we allow our transportation bureaucracy. (For that matter, most tolls are a lemonade stands have the sense to raise prices in response to increased demand.)

The Sierra Club recommends that we ask the voters for a real fix on bridge "authority" that has real authority. The "authority" should be allowed to match prices to consumer demand — raise tolls to decrease traffic, but encourage transit use, and to raise revenue for public transit.

As a public agency, the authority should also consider auto emissions for the relatively few low-income people without feasible transportation alternatives.

Creating this simple business management authority will provide better public transit alternatives, decrease traffic, backup by better managing demand, increase public transit use, and improve our air quality (incidentally providing our federal transportation funding).

The time has come for a little business (and common) sense in managing transportation assets.

Mike P.
Berkeley

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"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Diocese of Oakland focuses on victims, not perpetrators, of sexual abuse

EVEN MORE disturbing than the recent revelations that some Catholic priests have been molesting children is the fact that their superiors tried to cover up the scandal. In Boston, for instance, Cardinal Bernard Law is hanging on to his job by his fingernails. In other cases, the bishops show more than halfhearted concern. They feel beleaguered because when the Cardinal was informed that one of his priests, John Geoghan, was molesting children, his only recourse was to keep transferring Geoghan to parish after parish, where he proceeded to molest even more children. Eventually, his victims numbered more than 100. Similar horror stories are coming up in New Orleans, Philadelphia, Los Angeles, Hartford, Conn., and San Francisco. In each case, the authorities' first instinct



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

was to protect their own. Families were pressured to keep quiet "for the sake of the Church." Church lawyers stonewalled the investigations at every turn. As a last resort, secret court settlements were signed with the victims, stipulating that they'd forfeit every penny if the story ever saw the light of day. But you can't keep the lid on forever, and now the Church is reaping reams of the worst kind of publicity. And the legal liability continues to mount into millions of dollars. As Richard Nixon and Bill Clinton could have told them, it

ain't the crime, it's the cover-up.

It's not hard to understand why they did this: They were thinking like bureaucrats. This kind of knee-jerk protective reaction can be found every day in any major corporation.

The problem, of course, is that church leaders aren't supposed to think like bureaucrats. They're supposed to think like shepherds.

But there's a shining exception to this shameful pattern, and it's right here in our own back yard.

One of the best things about the Catholic Church is that it's hierarchical. That means people are accountable for their actions. There's a place where the buck finally stops, and that place is with the bishop.

Some bishops tried to pass that buck for instance, Cardinal Law in Boston and Cardinal

Egan of New York, back when he was the bishop of Stamford, Conn. But here in the Diocese of Oakland — which covers both Alameda and Contra Costa counties — Catholics are blessed to have a bishop named John Cummins, who "got it" as long as 15 years ago.

That's when he issued a stern zero-tolerance sexual abuse policy that other dioceses are only starting to catch up with. And this is the cardinal (if you'll pardon the pun) rule: When in doubt, identify with the victim, not the perpetrator. From that follows all the others:

■ Every complaint is to be investigated seriously, even if it's anonymous.

■ The accused priest is removed from contact with children immediately, before the investigation even begins.

■ If the allegation turns out to be true, the priest is barred

from contact with children for the rest of his life.

■ In addition, the molestation must be reported immediately to the police, and Church officials must cooperate fully with their investigation.

The Diocese closely monitors offending priests' progress in therapy "in order that the Church does not push their problem onto the rest of society."

Not content with that, Bishop Cummins and his right-hand woman — Sister Barbara Flannery, the Chancellor of the Diocese — are also going proactive. They're reaching out to the victims with a new ministry specifically designed to help them heal.

"We're not trying to talk them into returning to the Church," says Flannery. "We just want to help in any way we can."

This includes putting victims in contact with survivors of sexual abuse, for mutual support; educating deacons and other Church officials how to spot signs of sexual abuse; and constantly re-evaluating how the policy is working, to find any loopholes that need plugging.

The Diocese is currently investigating several cases of priestly sexual abuse. When I talked to Flannery on Tuesday, she had just gotten off the phone with someone who was bringing a new allegation to her attention. But so far, all of these cases have been about old incidents, some as long ago as 20 years. In many cases, the priest involved is either retired or dead.

Not that it makes any difference; the investigation goes full steam ahead anyway. "After all," says Flannery, "the victims are still alive, and they're the ones we care about."

So does that mean there are no children being molested by priests in the Oakland Diocese today?

"I would never be so arrogant as to say that," says Flannery. "It's such an insidious problem, you can never be sure

that it's not happening. But it's our duty to try as hard as we can to make sure it doesn't."

By the way, even though the Catholic Church has gotten the lion's share of the publicity, studies show that clerical sexual abuse occurs in about equal proportion in every religion.

To quote Philip Jenkins, Distinguished Professor of History and Religious Studies at Penn State (and author of "Pedophiles and Priests: Anatomy of a Contemporary Crisis," published by Oxford University Press):

"Every mainline Protestant denomination has had scandals aplenty, as have Pentecostals, Mormons, Jehovah's Witnesses, Jews, Muslims, Buddhists and Hare Krishnas." (And, he might have added, atheists too.)

And as for suggestions by some — like Bill Maher — that the whole problem can be blamed on the Catholic Church's insistence on priestly celibacy, it doesn't compute. Loneliness does not inevitably lead to crime. (If it did, I'd be writing this from San Quentin.)

I ask you: If you were cut off from romantic contact with the opposite sex, would that cause you to start molesting children? Of course not. Sexual abuse, like rape, may be about any number of things, including power, but it has nothing to do with sex. For these predators, sex is the means, not the end.

One final thought: Have a little compassion for the 99 percent of priests who are not child molesters and never will be. Right now they're being tarred with an awfully broad brush. People spot their turned-around collar, and you just know what they're thinking. It can't be fun, especially for someone who has given up everything — sex, money, family — so he can be of service to others.

E-mail Martin Snapp at catman@california.com or call him at 510-273-9039.

Flautist Ernie Mansfield has a passion for jazz

IT'S HARD TO get classical-music fans to accept a jazz flute. Ernie Mansfield says, "I once I do get an audience, they really enjoy and appreciate what I do."

Mansfield started playing flute when he was 8, played school bands and went to Waterloo Arts Academy in Michigan, where he met a jazz musician who was a flautist.

He had me listen to works by Charlie Mann, and then play with him." So began Mansfield's own love affair with the genre.

He went on to the Oberlin Conservatory, then to the University of Illinois, where "I learned a lot outside of class."

He had a good jazz department. He also attended State



CLARA-RAE GENSER
Community Folk

University of New York.

At 21 he went to France with the progressive folk group "Mormos," and wrote some of the band's material. They made two recordings in France and when he returned, he played clubs in Chicago, Wisconsin and Indiana.

Besides having a day job as a music engraver, typesetting music for a publishing company, Mansfield makes time to teach. He also has written music for documentary films and

has released two CDs, "Windsailor" and "Color Drops."

I listened to "Color Drops" with great delight. On this album, Mansfield is joined by guitarist Juan Babiloni. One of the other has written many of the songs they play.

The first time I met him, he was speaking to the East Bay League of the San Francisco Symphony. In a quick, bright discourse, he introduced us to the flute, gave us its history, showed us the various types of flutes, and the evolution of the instrument since its early days. The only thing he didn't do is play jazz for us.

Although classically trained, Mansfield clearly has a special place in his heart for jazz, which he also plays live at venues including La Peña in Berkeley,

Yoshi's in Oakland and Sweetwater. He also has played the Russian River Jazz Festival, with pianist Mary Watkins.

Mansfield also plays three kinds of flutes, the piccolo, the synthesizer, and can double on the saxophone, piano and the clarinet.

He and his wife and two children live in Berkeley.

Multi-talented and passionate about music, Ernie Mansfield was a great interview. He can be reached at 510-524-2055. His e-mail is ernie@mansfieldmusic.com. As always, let me know of interesting people for the column. Reach me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706, or call me at 525-4585. My e-mail is crgenser@aol.com

Greer

PAGE A3

so much authority and an ear that could catch glass. This did not sing the blues; it was the blues. One of the musical mysteries to me of this young, white man could sing with the conviction of a male Bessie Smith or Ma

and she did equally well on tunes like "Alexander's Rag Band." (She recorded it but it has never been issued.) Unfortunately, Dick's effort to get her a good-paying gig with Teri Murphy's band in San Francisco came to

without letting her audition, solely because of the black clothes she wore in an attempt to dress up. Murphy decided she was a "hippie" and when Jim Janis went on to turn her voice away in a band and die tragically young from substance abuse.

If she had worn different clothes to that audition, we might still be enjoying one of the most amazing voices of the

MUSICAL VISITORS: The

Bay Area jazz scene drew in musicians from all over the country, and most wound up playing at our parties. Some were well known like guitarist Marty Grosz from Chicago. With him came hot reedmen Frank Chace and Bob Skyyer. Cornettist Ted Buttermann blew in from the Windy City and stayed for several years, delighting Beiderbecke buffs with performances worthy of the immortal Bix himself.

Many visiting musicians were young, revival players who are still carrying the banner of traditional jazz into the new century. A youthful Earl Scheelar was drawn from Seattle, and has been leading bands on cornet and clarinet ever since. His friend Bob Jackson, also from Seattle, often visited and played trumpet on gigs and at parties. He later became the driving force in the Grand Dominion Jazz Band, considered by many to be the world's premier traditional jazz group.

A LEGEND IS BORN: Quite a few revival musicians from Los Angeles came here to play, and some to stay. At one of our parties I talked with a retiring Angelino who said he admired and had played with Papa Mutt

Carey, the great trumpeter with Kid Ory's Creole Jazz Band. I told him to get his ax, and he came back with the classic battered old cornet in a paper bag. It was life imitating art, or at least the movies.

I found him a place in a group of players, and when he joined in, the Ray Ronnei legend was born. It was instantly apparent he was not just another cornettist. His conception was from the central core of jazz. And although his tone then still had something of the crying, crackling quality of Carey's, it was so primal that it was hard to believe it came out of a horn.

Ronnei made the more sophisticated brass men seem irrelevant; I remember one just stopped playing and looked at

him. It was as if a wolf had walked into a pack of dogs and howled, reminding them of their original nature and purpose. To many of us Ronnei became emblematic of the young, white players who had brought about a renaissance of an improvised music whose origins were largely black. It can be thought of as a second Golden Age of jazz.

But don't look to the recent Ken Burns documentary film for any mention of this movement that included both young whites and many of the older blacks who developed and defined jazz. Burns simply ignores one of the most important musical occurrences of the century. So once again the regnant ideology in academia and the arts

trumped historical truth.

As the jazz crowd has grown older, there have been fewer of the big parties and other of our gatherings. But older musicians, joined by some younger ones, are still playing fine jazz as they did in honor of Dick Oxtot. Six groups performed at this event followed by a rousing jam session.

One of these bands, humorist Mal Sharpe's Big Money in Dixieland, can be heard at the Ivy Room on San Pablo Avenue in Albany. El Cerritan Jim Gammon, a sensational trumpet player, and Dick Hadlock, well-known jazz critic and reed player, are in a front line featuring Sharpe on trombone and vocals. This excellent band plays on Tuesdays about once a


month. (Check with the club for performances.)

Bill Reynolds, life-long jazz fan and recognized authority in the field, organized this commemorative party with the help of Dick's widow, Darylene. Dick's son, Terry Rodriguez, an accomplished pianist, played with two groups. Reynolds has been a central figure in putting 18 of these big events together, and was himself honored on his 80th birthday in January of 2000.

And so both old and young help to carry the flame of traditional jazz into an age sorely in need of a reputable popular music which is both exciting and emotionally satisfying.

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www.mechbank.com
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From the pens of students come words of peace

By Paula King
STAFF WRITER

In the wake of Sept. 11, Richmond High School freshman Gilbertman Corea reflected on his own personal safety, along with the rest of the nation. So, an essay topic entitled, "How the U.S. Can Make the World a Safer Place," caught his attention instantly.

Although Corea doesn't consider himself a writer, the process of expressing his emotions, through the crafting of an essay, proved to be healing.

The essay earned him a \$75 second-place award in the contest sponsored by East Bay Peace Action. Two first-place winners received \$100 awards for expressing similar dreams of a world without violence. The first-

place honorees were Richmond High School junior Amanda Edmiston and El Cerrito High School freshman Misha Kaur.

Corea recalled that the famous words of Martin Luther King, Jr. wouldn't leave his thoughts. King once wrote "A threat to justice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

The freshman's version: "A threat to freedom anywhere is a threat to freedom everywhere."

Corea's essay expressed his belief that "the best solution to the problem of terrorism can be found in the making of peace with countries of the Middle East, a cease-fire that will stop the fighting and the killing of innocent people who have nothing to do with the war."

War, he wrote, "is not the right

way to make the U.S. or the world safe; it only produces hate and fear. We should focus on the ways that unite us and continue working on things that are pulling us apart."

In a sonnet-form poem entitled "United," Kaur found the one positive aspect of this tragedy:

"To overcome this we need to stand united, to reach out and help others I'd be delighted, every family is welcome and invited, this barbaric event has made us reunited."

Although it was an essay contest, the judges made an exception for Kaur. Poetry is the medium she prefers for the free flow of thoughts and ideas.

As a teen-ager, Kaur says her life is forever changed, since the terrorist acts.

"It's not safe anymore," she says. "Parents are always asking us more questions concerning our safety. Safety procedures are always on our minds. Before Sept. 11, these things didn't come to mind."

Edmiston believes older generations of Americans should have learned more from past wars. While studying the history of World Wars I and II, she wonders why they didn't realize sooner that fighting doesn't solve anything.

"Now, it's up to this generation to stop all the violence," says Edmiston, who believes that this will happen during her lifetime.

Her solutions are to get rid of all weapons, stop the violence and respect the differences of others.

According to Edmiston, these are the first steps to solving problems in our local community and beyond. She also enjoyed the writing process because it allowed her creative freedom.

"After nine-eleven, it was just on my mind. The topic was good because it relates to what we are dealing with in daily life," she says. "It allowed us to explore how to change our reaction to terrorism."

Albany-based East Bay Peace Action has 100 active members and is affiliated with Peace Action, the nation's largest grassroots peace organization.

Member Dolores Rodriguez says members are also committed to social justice and human rights issues.

The group works to abolish

nuclear weapons, end trafficking and find solutions to international conflicts. On a local level, the group lobbies for the cause and community outreach.

Rodriguez says the contest is a way to reach out to local youth. It was a good idea made possible by a grant from a member.

The panel of judges was up of four community members: former Richmond Mayor Mary Corbin; community activist Andre Soto; past Neighborhood House Board member Jackson; and representative spokeswoman Barbara L. Dubre.

For more information on the Peace Action, call 510-524-3353.

Chamber

FROM PAGE A2

June 2. Twenty percent of all advance ticket sales made by community groups will go directly to those organizations.

This is not a tough sell: We're talking about the opportunity to sample the finest food in town, to savor the extraordinary cuisine of Nizza la Bella, Fonda, Solano Grill and Bar, Walker's Restaurant and Pie Shop, The Naare Thai Cuisine, Clayport Seafood House, Grace Baking, Filippo's Pastaria, and Ruen Pair Thai Cuisine.

What could be better than dining on the finest food in town while sitting comfortably beneath an endless spring sky, the cool sounds of jazz and the laughter of children drifting through the trees?

This is also an opportunity for us to get to know each other, to connect with one another and enjoy what is best about our town.

AND THERE IS MORE: We will stage an art show that day in the Veteran's Building, a lovely period structure. We are seeking local artists and students to show their work, en-

couraging them to donate a good portion of any sales to a fund to save the advanced art class at Albany High.

Do you want to participate? Give us a call.

Photographs of Old Albany will also be on display during our first Spring Festival, as well as memorabilia from the early days, including the time when Albany was called Ocean View or had no name at all. Do you have something to share? Let us know.

We want to invite all community organizations to set up a table in the hallway of the Veteran's Building on June 2, and promote — free of charge — what your group is doing to benefit the people, especially the young, in Albany.

So join us and help transform a crisis into a wonderful opportunity.

For more information: 510-525-1771, or e-mail us at: albanychamber@bigplanet.com.

New member

Filippo's Pastaria: This is the perfect place to bring your family or your sweetheart. The lighting is lovely, the food delightful, and the prices quite affordable.

Owner Philip Raskin opened

his first pastaria on College Avenue in Berkeley 10 years ago, and established Filippo's on Solano four years ago in July. His goal: "To provide great food, an enjoyable atmosphere, and to give our customers a lot for their money."

The proof is in the pudding, the saying goes, though in this case try the frutti de mar, a luscious pasta dish with calamari, shrimp, and mussels, prepared in a garlic wine sauce. Then there is the penne polli — grilled chicken with roasted peppers and mushrooms, cooked fresh on the spot in a sauce of white wine, garlic, and herbs. Cheese and spinach

Police

FROM PAGE A2

of a business at El Cerrito Plaza was shattered and an attempt had been made to unlock the doors.

On Feb. 19 it was reported that someone entered a home through a pet door on the 100 block of San Carlos Avenue and stole a video camera.

A Toyota pickup-truck was stolen from the 8000 block of Terrace Drive sometime between 8 and 10:30 p.m. on Feb. 16.

ravioli are also favorites at Filippio's.

And if you have a sweet tooth, make sure you try the tiramisu, a traditional Italian desert that is something like a layer cake, but then again, no. Prepared with a sweet cheese called marscapone, chocolate, cognac and ladyfingers, well, how often do you get to nibble on those?

Open seven days a week — from 11:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m. weekdays, and until 10 p.m. on weekends — Filippo's Pastaria is located at 1499 Solano Ave. Check out their daily and lunch specials. For more information: 510-524-4300.

A 1987 Toyota was stolen from the 600 block of Kearney Street sometime between 10 p.m. and 1 a.m. the night of Feb. 16.

A 1993 Ford Ranger was stolen from the 2600 block of Tassajara Drive sometime between 12:30 and 7:45 a.m. on Feb. 20.

A 2000 Camry was stolen from the 1300 block of Scott Street sometime between 10:30 and 11 p.m. on Feb. 21.

A 1988 Camry was stolen from Cutting Boulevard and San Pablo Avenue sometime between 5 and 9 p.m. on Feb. 21.

Briefs

FROM PAGE C3

vice president in his sophomore year. He is an outstanding musician, plays the French horn in the Concert Band, and is a founding member of the "Roaring Cougars" choral group. He recently returned from Hawaii where he was a finalist in the Western Regional Honor Choir.

In addition to Albany Rotary Club members, the award meeting was attended by the students' parents and the principals from their respective schools.

Abelson speaking to Republican women

KENSINGTON — El Cerrito Mayor Janet Abelson will be the guest speaker at the Kensington Area Republican Women's luncheon meeting on March 27 at Mira Vista Country Club, 7900 Cutting Blvd., El Cerrito.

Abelson, who is acting chairwoman of the West Contra Costa Transportation Advisory Committee, will talk about "Transportation in the Bay Area."

Social hour begins at noon. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. For reservations call Catherine at 510-524-5689. Lunch is \$14 per person and checks should be written to KARW. Deadline for reservations is March 23.

The KARW is in the process of membership outreach to the nearby El Cerrito as well as Kensington. Possible members will be contacted by mail and in-

formation regarding the club will be sent.

Be disaster ready with free training

EL CERRITO — The Fire Department is offering free preparedness training for all disasters, natural and otherwise. You will put out a fire, rescue a trapped victim, perform medical triage, and much more. Topics include mass casualty incidents, disaster medicine, hazardous materials, search & rescue, fire suppression, utility control, emergency communications, hazard mitigation, damage assessment, and home and neighborhood preparedness.

The training course consists of both a classroom session and a hands-on drill. The classroom session is from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on either Saturday, April 13 or Saturday, April 27. The hands-on drill is from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. on Saturday, May 11. The course is free to everyone. Reservations are required. For location and reservation, contact program coordinator Pat Cafetel at 510-525-7268 or cafetel@juno.com.

Trash to Treasures junk art competition

OAKLAND — The East Bay Depot for Creative Re-Use is holding its 10th annual Junk Art Competition and Exhibition, with the deadline for on April 22 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and April 23rd from noon to 7 p.m. Over \$2,000 in cash prizes and gift certificates

will be awarded for the best art made from found, scrounged, or reused materials. Categories are Professional, Adult, High School, Middle School, Upper Elementary School, Pre-K/Primary, Collaboration, and Student Collaboration.

For entry forms, visit The East Bay Depot for Creative Re-Use Store at 6713 San Pablo Ave. in Oakland. Trash to Treasures is funded by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority and Source Reduction and Recycling Board.

Exhibition dates for entered artworks are April 29-May 17, at the former Outback Store, 2517 Sacramento St. in Berkeley. Exhibition hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday and 1-4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday. For more details call 510-547-4285.

Chocolate & Chalk Art Festival

The sidewalks along Solano Avenue in Berkeley and Albany are the target of artists young and old, professional and greenhorn during the 6th annual Sidewalk Chalk Art Festival. Held over Memorial Day weekend, chalking will take place only on Saturday, May 25. The festival and viewing of the artwork will continue all weekend.

With no fees to artists, areas of sidewalk will be assigned to participants to create their own fanciful chalk paintings. Registration takes place beginning at 9 a.m. at Peralta Park, 1561 Solano Ave. in Berkeley. Artist's chalk and a Polaroid of finished work are available for a fee. To encourage early registration, a

raffle will be held at noon from registered artists for merchandise donated by local businesses.

Visitors can pick up chocolate menus from the businesses on Solano Avenue that are flying a festival banner. The menu features brownies, fudge cakes, chocolate tortes and more to be purchased from merchants while viewing the artwork.

The Berkeley Police Department will set up Operation Kid-

print at Peralta Plaza Park the day. Children's fingers are taken and then sent with parents to be kept safe.

Unfurling of the special street banners illustrated by 150 community members will complete the art above and below.

Events are sponsored by Solano Avenue Association. Call: 510-527-5358 or www.solanoave.org

a partnership of
California State Parks
East Bay Regional Park District
California State Coastal Conservancy

PLANNING THE EASTSHORE
A Park for the 21st Century

EASTSHORE PARK

REGIONAL WORKSHOP #3: PREFERRED PARK CONCEPT

THURSDAY • MARCH 21, 2002 • 7:00 PM

Florence Schwimley Little Theatre
1930 Allston Way, Berkeley

Limited street parking. Please take mass transit if possible.

This location is wheelchair accessible ♿

The purpose of the workshop is to:

- Discuss the draft preferred park concept plan, which represents over a year's effort to develop a park land use and conservation program.
- Solicit input to guide the Planning Team in drafting a General Plan.

The Eastshore Park extends along the eastern shoreline of San Francisco Bay from the Bay Bridge to Marina Bay in Richmond.

QUESTIONS? CALL 1-888-988-PARK OR
VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.EASTSHORESTATEPARK.ORG

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

to the Community Calendar
be received Thursdays one week
in publication. Listings are on a
space available basis.

Support Group meets twice a
week on Tuesday evenings at 7
p.m. at the Cancer Resource Center,
2230 Shattuck Ave. The free support
group is for teens who have a parent or
grandparent with cancer. The meeting is
facilitated by a teen whose mother
has breast cancer. For more information,
call PediatricCare at 531-7551.

Book books from the Berkeley
Jewish Community Center
Share quality time with your
children. The library is located at
2230 Shattuck Ave. Hours: 11 a.m. to 3
p.m. Monday through Thursday, 6:30
p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For more
information, call 848-0237.

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information, call 848-0237.

yoga, martial arts and more; University
YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-
6370; \$8 - \$10.

Community

"Our Family Coalition," and the Berkeley
YMCA presents the fourth annual
Gay and Lesbian Family Night at the
YMCA from 6 to 9 p.m. Saturday,
March 16 at the YMCA in Berkeley,
2001 Allston Way, just one block from
BART. The evening includes a pizza
party, swimming, juggling demonstration
and instruction, clowning, face
painting, soccer, floor hockey, music,
karate demo and much more for tod-
dlers through teens. Special teen pro-
grams available including water basket-
ball. The events are free, a donation
is requested, and is open to all LGBT
families and their friends. RSVP 665-
3238 with name, number of adults
and kids' ages.

Berkeley Camera Club meet Tuesdays
at 7:30 p.m. at the Northbrae Commu-
nity Church, 941 The Alameda, Berke-
ley. Share your slides and prints and
learn what other photographers are
doing. Monthly field trips. For more in-
formation, call Don at 525-3565.

TOPS (Take Pounds Off Sensibly) Chap-
ter CA 1294 is now meeting from 7:15-
8:30 p.m. every Thursday evening at
Mira Vista UCC Church, 7075 Cutting
Blvd. TOPS is a non-profit organization
dedicated to helping men and women
lose weight. For more information call
Betty Coates at 235-0490. This chapter has
moved from Richmond.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Ban-
croft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics
on Tuesday afternoons, or by appoint-
ment. To sign up for an appointment,
leave a message several days before
you would like to meet. Anne Levine
Ph.D. has a background in Design
and Education. For the past 10 years,
she has assisted in producing numer-
ous resumes as part of her desktop
publishing business. Call 848-6370.

Marion Rosen, founder of Rosen
Method bodywork and movement,
presents the Method through lecture,
demonstration, and experiential
practice. Rosen is joined in the pre-
sentation by Sara Webb, Senior
Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork.
Location: Feldenkrais Resources, 830
Bancroft Way. Admission: \$10. Reser-
vations are strongly recommended.
For more information or to make a
reservation, contact Abby Paige, at
845-6606.

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services
presents a new series of free Commu-
nity Emergency Response
Training (CERT) classes. The classes
give basic, practical information, in-
cluding hands-on training in fire sup-
pression, light search and rescue, and
disaster first aid. All classes are held
at the fire department's Emergency
Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The
classes are open to everyone, 18 or
older, who lives or works in Berkeley.
To register, or for more information,
call the Office of Emergency Services,
644-6736.

Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film
Archive offers a guided tour of Equal
Partner: Men and Women Principals in
Contemporary Architectural Practice
presented by graduate students from
the UC-Berkeley Department of Archi-
tecture, College of Environmental De-
sign on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15
p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For
additional information call 642-0808.

Overeaters Anonymous meet Fridays
at 1:30 PM at the Northbrae Commu-
nity Church in Berkeley, 941 The
Alameda between Solano and Marin
avenues, in Room 2 - the childcare
room - parents may bring their chil-
dren. This organization is for individ-
uals who eat compulsively? For further
information, call Katherine at 525-5231.

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Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up and
say what you mean. Come practice
Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz
Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional infor-
mation.

Civil Rights activists needed. Write the
ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany,
Richmond, and Kensington. P.O. Box
11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

"Work Buddies"; volunteers needed to
perform volunteer work with people
in early stage Alzheimer's Disease.
Minimum six-month commitment, two
to three hours per week. Training
provided. Contact Nannette Lipton,
644-8292.

Psychic Healing clinic; 7 to 9 p.m. Mon-
days; free clinic at the Academy for
Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura
cleansing, stress relief. 1-800-642-9355.

SMART project; the Alcohol Research
Group in Berkeley is conducting a
study to compare the cost and effec-
tiveness of two kinds of substance
abuse day treatment: medical model
day treatment and social model day
treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802
and agreeing to do three interviews,
individuals chosen for the study re-
ceive free treatment at existing treat-
ment programs.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gar-
dening and cooking program at
Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks
volunteers to work with students, 9
a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335.

English-In-Action lets you make friends
from around the world. Volunteer as
a conversation partner with a foreign UC
scholar/student for one hour a week.
YWCA, at Berkeley, Call 843-9716.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in
Berkeley; serving women who are
homeless or at risk of becoming
homeless, needs volunteers. The
Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Monday through Saturday. Volunteers
are needed for morning and after-
noon shifts. For more information, call
466-5663.

Exhibits

The Richmond Museum of History
continues exhibits highlighting Rich-
mond's agricultural beginnings, in-
dustrial achievements, and homefront
contributions during WWII. Special
exhibits and events are held through-
out the year. The museum is located
in the historic 1910 Carnegie Library
in the Old Downtown area at the cor-
ner of 4th Street and Nevin Ave. Call
235-7387 for more information or to
arrange tours.

The City of El Cerrito presents Open
Clay Studio ongoing classes on Mon-
days, 7-9 p.m. Experience with clay is
helpful, but not necessary. Opportuni-
ties will be provided for students to
explore areas of clay work. Demon-
strations and instruction will be pro-
vided on requests. Admission: \$7-50
residents, \$9-38 nonresidents. The lo-
cation: Tassajara Pottery Center, 2575
Tassajara Boulevard. For more infor-
mation, call Judie at 215-4371.

Alta Bates Medical Center presents
work by members of the California
Watercolor Association at its Commu-
nity Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave.,
Berkeley. The gallery is in the main

corridor to the left of the information
desk and main entrance. Call 204-
4444 for additional information.

New Pieces Gallery is located on
Solano Avenue. New Pieces is the only
gallery which shows quilts and soft
cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively.
The gallery is open during store busi-
ness hours: Monday, Wednesday, Fri-
day, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9
p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. ex-
cept major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Literary Events

California Writers Club presents Gayle
Lynda, author of the Nick Carter mys-
tery series, at 11 a.m. Saturday, March
16, at Spencers Fresh Fish Grotto,
1919 Fourth St. Lunch: \$18. Open to
the public. Call 595-5883 for more infor-
mation or visit the Web site at
www.berkeleywritersclub.org.

The Reading Edge is available for pub-
lic use at the Berkeley Public Library,
2121 Allston Way. This computer
scans printed text and reads it back
along with a synthesized voice. It's
available for anyone with a disability
that requires its use to access print
material. Users must complete a brief
training session before using the
Reading Edge; after that, reservations
are needed. Call the Reference Desk
at 644-6648 to set up a training ses-
sion.

Meetings

National Association of Retired Federal
Employees, Chapter 1282, meet at 1
p.m. Tuesday, March 26, at Albany
United Methodist Church, 990 Stan-
nage Ave., Albany. The Marchi Group
of Morgan Stanley presents "Invest-
ment Management."

Berkeley Camera Club meet Tuesday
evenings, 7:30 p.m., at the Northbrae
community Church, 941 The Alameda,
Berkeley. Share your slides and prints
and learn what other photographers
are doing. Monthly field trips. For more
information, call Don at 525-3565.

Free seminar on Natural Learning
Rhythms, a holistic understanding of
child development, takes place from
10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at Berkeley Pub-
lic Library, Claremont Branch, 2940
Benvenue. The program describes each
stage of a child's life, natural pauses
and transitions. Registration is
required. Call 800-2001107 for more
information.

Berkeley Camera Club meet at 7:30
p.m. Tuesday evenings, at the North-
brae Community Church, 941 The
Alameda, Berkeley. Share your slides
and prints and learn what other pho-
tographers are doing. Monthly field
trips. For more information, call Don
at 525-3565.

Julia Morgan Center for the Arts hosts
an informational and discussion ses-
sion regarding dance opportunities in
the Bay Area. The center opens its
doors to the dance community and
presents its plans for Dance Week
2002 and for future dance perfor-
mances on the stage of Julia Morgan
Theatre. The event is free. RSVP to
Bridget Frederick at bdfrederick@juli-
amorgan.org or by calling 845-8542, ext.

302. Visit the Web site at www.ju-
liamorgan.org for more details.

Kensington Senior Activity Center
meets from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Ar-
lington Community Church, 52 Arling-
ton Ave. The West Costa Costa Adult
school and community volunteers pre-
sent the Center's program of life-long
learning. Attend any class or event.
Everyone over 55 is welcome. Volun-
teers of all ages are needed. Call 526-
9146 or 547-1969 for more informa-
tion.

Disabled American Veterans Chapter
25 meets on the third Tuesday of the
month. The evening begins with a no
host dinner and fellowship at 7 p.m. at
2068 Center St. A short business
meeting follows at 8 p.m. at 1931 Cen-
ter St., the Veterans Memorial Building.
Price: \$3. Women who have had rela-
tives in the US Military are invited to at-
tend and join the auxiliary. For more
information, call R. DeRisi, Cmdr. D.A.V.
Chapter 25, 916-372-8364.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its
Turning Point Career Center. The ori-
entations outline the resources avail-
able to the public and the great variety
of workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30
p.m. The Turning Point Career Center
is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For
more information, call 848-6370.

The Berkeley Avatar Metaphysics
Toastmasters Club meet on the first
and third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30
p.m., at 2515 Hillegass Ave. Public
speaking skills and metaphysics
come together. For more information,
call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

Berkeley Toastmasters Club meet
monthly, on the first and third Thurs-
days at 2515 Hillegass Ave. The
group specializes in developing its
communication and public speaking
skills in the field of metaphysics. The
group also learn from each other
through short speeches. Call Odette
Larde at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

The Kensington Senior Activity Center
meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2
p.m. in the Arlington Community
Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The cen-
ter's community program of life-long
learning is presented by the West
Costa Costa Adult School. Attend
any class or event you choose. Every-
one over 55 is welcome. Call 526-
9146 or 547-1969 for additional infor-
mation.

The YWCA offers free orientations every
Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning
Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft
Way. The orientations outline the cen-
ter's resources and the variety of
workshops it offers to the public. For
additional information, call 848-6370.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express
Toastmasters. The Smart Club! Meet-
ings take place each Monday, 6:15 to
7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restau-
rant, 2068 Center St. For additional in-
formation call 549-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting: Stand up and
say what you mean. Come practice
with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1
p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley, Call
883-6708 for additional information.

Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS)
meets every Thursday evening at the
First Baptist Church, Richmond, on
Solano below Arlington. Call Betty
Coates 235-0490 for more informa-
tion.

Joy of Yiddish: Yiddish conversation at
1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior
Center, 1901 Hearst. Call 644-6107 for
additional information. The Berkeley
Communicators Toastmasters Club
meet on the first and third Wednesday
of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at
the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant.
Details: 524-3765.

**The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Edu-
cation Group** meets on the second
Tuesday of each month (except Decem-
ber) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffly
Auditorium, Herrick Campus, 2001
Dwight Way. Dr. Brian Kaye, a
rheumatologist, has treated many pa-
tients with various types of arthritis
and will be available for questions. For
additional information call 204-4503.

Toastmasters on Campus meet the
second and fourth Wednesday of the
month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the
English Language Program Building,
2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

Public speaking skills and metaphysics
come together at Avatar Metaphysical
Toastmasters. On-going meetings first
and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30
p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call 869-
2547 for details.

"Voices of Healing" is a group explor-
ing the psychological and spiritual di-
mensions of illness and healing. The
group meets on the second Friday of
each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North
Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for more infor-
mation.

State Health Toastmasters Club meet
every second, third and fourth Thurs-
day of the month from 12:10 to 1:10
p.m. at the State Health Building, 2151
Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

Higher Alignment: 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Mondays; fup, informative seminars
creating spiritual partnerships;
Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way,
Berkeley; (415) 461-5337; \$20.

Alta Bates Support Groups - Arthritis
Support Group meets the second
Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30
p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional
special events.

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12 step pro-
gram providing free aid for those with
eating problems, meets in Berkeley
every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcom-
ers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church,
2727 College Ave. and in Richmond
every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser
Hospital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C

See CALENDAR, Page A8

Letting Go
A Support Group For Compulsive Eaters
Compulsive eating can cause extraordinary pain - both physical
and emotional; but you are not alone and there is hope.
Groups now forming in Rockridge: Two sessions available
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Big Brothers and Big Sisters
Child Abuse Prevention Center
Please Donate Any Vehicle You Can Today.

Calendar

FROM PAGE A7

to the third floor). For further information, call 273-9292.

TOPS: 9:30 a.m., Mondays; Take Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Main; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-6858.

Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffly Auditorium on Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley. Details: 594-4503.

Music

First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley, 2407 Dana St., presents a 90-voice Chancel Choir with the California Chamber Symphony at 8 p.m. Sunday, March 24. A pre-concert lecture is at 7:30 p.m. The program includes Ludwig van Beethoven's masterful work, "Mass in C." Childcare is available. Free admission; a free-will offering will be taken. Call 848-6242 or visit the Web site at www.fpcberkeley.org.

The Distaff Singers, an established East Bay Women's chorus, is seeking new members. No auditions required, just a love of singing. Classical, pop, sacred, Broadway. Rehearsals Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Call Michelle 601-5624, or L.J. 482-1677.

Duckman Distones, featuring Donald Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica, Isaiah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lankford, Drums and Larry Giustino on Fretless Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital Dave and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional information.

Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

Outdoors

The UC Berkeley Botanical Garden, 200 Centennial Drive, Strawberry Canyon, offers a free sick plant clinic on the first Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon. Dr. Raabe will diagnose. For more information, call 643-2755.

Learn to feed and care for orphaned baby birds: house sparrows, starlings and pigeons are introduced species that are not afforded care by rehabilitation groups. You can make an important contribution in returning these species to the wild life they deserve to have. Free training and some supplies. Call Myra 531-3042 or Lelia 655-3911.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, offers "Scribe Time," a technique that helps participants understand themselves and to find focus. The group meets on Tuesdays by appointments and is free to YWCA members. Call 848-6370 for additional information, leave a message for Anne Levine.

East Bay Regional Park Botanical Garden Tilden Park, presents regular tours, seven days a week. Week days 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays 2 p.m. Special tours by appointment. Call 841-8732. For a schedule of upcoming classes call 925-820-1021.

Support

Fibromyalgia Support group meets Tuesday, March 19, at Alta Bates Medical Center, Maffly Auditorium-Herrick Campus, 12001 Dwight Way. Topic: "Self Help Strategies and Techniques from Feldenkrais and Pilates." Teacher is Richard Adelman, MA, Feldenkrais and Pilates. For more information, call Deborah at 644-3273. For directions only, call Barbara Ridley at 204-4503.

Alta Bates Medical Center presents a free support group for family, friends caring for older adults from 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m., on the third Wednesday of each month. The session takes place at the Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley, third floor, room 3369B (take elevator B). The group will focus on the needs of older adults with serious medical problems, psychiatric illnesses, such as depression, dementia and/or substance abuse. For more information or if interested in a private consultation, call 802-1725.

The number of recent tragedies both locally and across the nation can evoke reactions that can affect us emotionally, physically, in our thoughts and behavior. Alameda County Crisis Support Services offers help through its 24-hour crisis line,

grief counseling, education and community debriefing programs. Call 849-2212 for more information.

A free Yoga for Cancer class meets every Wednesday from 11:30 to 12:45 p.m. at the Alta Bates Comprehensive Cancer Center. The classes are open to both current patients and long-term survivors. Call Janet, 891-9560, for directions and more information.

Restorative Yoga class meets on Thursdays from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in central Berkeley. Cost: \$10 per class. Easy, luxurious stretches and mindful breathing help to ease tension and discomfort and open the body to relaxation and well-being. Call Janet, 891-9560, for directions and more information.

Adult Survivors of Incest, a local support group in the east bay is being formed. The group will gather for healing discussions and also various activities, including hiking, dancing, classic film watching, traveling, or any fun activity. Interested participants, call Atica Peece at 625-1698. Feel free to leave a message.

The pain and grief associated with the death of a loved one can often feel overwhelming — especially during the holidays. Many people suffer isolation. The grief counseling project is here to help. No one is turned away for lack of money. Call 889-1104.

"The Grief Care Community" offers 8-week bereavement support groups as well as art therapy grief groups, and individual support. Call 540-0830 for additional information.

The local self-help group for Berkeley National Multiple Sclerosis Society meets periodically. Call Toni at 653-4534 for additional information.

Alta Bates Medical Center Herrick Campus offers a guided relaxation and visualization for people with cancer every Thursday, 5-6 p.m. at its Comprehensive Cancer Center, first floor Conference Room, 2001 Dwight Way. The Center offers this solution with an innovative approach to reducing stress and anxiety and creating positive, life-affirming images. Call 204-1811 for additional information. Call 204-1811 for additional information.

Alta Bates Medical Center, offers a Grief Education Class every third Saturday of each month, 10 a.m. to noon at ABMC Herrick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. The class covers common and personal grief reactions. Fee: \$10. No one refused due to inability to pay. For further information, contact 841-2930.

Alta Bates Medical Center, 3001 Dwight Way, offers support group classes for stroke survivors and their families and friends on the first Tuesday of the month, from 4-5 p.m. at the Herrick Campus of Alta Bates Medical Center. There is no admission charge and advance registration is not necessary. Call 204-4503 for additional information.

The Comprehensive Cancer Center and Breast Center at Alta Bates Medical Center, 3001 Dwight Way, offers a support group for friends and families coping with cancer. The support group is offered on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month. This is a free service. Call 204-1811 for additional information.

The Lupus Foundation of Northern California is still accepting applications for its Youth Pilot Support Program currently underway at Lucille Packard Children's Hospital at Stanford. The group meets monthly and is open to teens suffering from lupus and other rheumatic diseases. For more information, call (408) 954-8800 or visit www.lupus.org.

The City of Berkeley Portable Meals program desperately needs drivers to deliver 15 meals once a week to homebound seniors. Call 844-8590.

The North Berkeley Senior Center is also seeking volunteers to work in its gift shop, coffee bar and dining area three to four hours, one day a week. Call 644-6107.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education group presents Dorothea Dorenz, a state certified massage and movement therapist, who teaches self-healing methods. Bring a small pillow, and wear loose, comfortable clothing. For directions or more information, call 204-4503.

Lecture/Workshop

UC Botanical Garden offers a free plant clinic from 9 a.m. to noon, first Saturday of every month at Strawberry Canyon, 200 Centennial Drive. For more information, call 643-2755.

Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center expanded its collection of contemporary fiction, nonfiction and children's books. Meet the children's librarian, research your Jewish roots or check out best sellers. The library is open to the public. Hours: 11 and to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday; 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Tuesdays. For more information, call 848-0237.

Tai Chi Chuan and Chi-Kung classes take place at Berkeley Unitarian Church at 7 p.m. on Wednesday



PHOTO COURTESY OF UC BERKELEY

UC to celebrate Charter Day

UC BERKELEY will celebrate its 134th anniversary on March 15 with a keynote address by Costa Rican President Miguel A. Rodríguez. Rodríguez, who in 1966 received his Ph.D. in economics from the university, will speak on trade and development in Latin America. The Charter Day ceremony, which commemorates the founding of the university in 1868, is scheduled for noon in Zellerbach Auditorium. Chancellor Robert M. Berdahl will deliver the welcome. For more information on Charter Day, visit www.urel.berkeley.edu/charterday.

evenings and 9 a.m. Saturday mornings at Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1924 Cedar St. People of all ages and physical conditions are welcome to practice. Donation: \$65. To sign up call 268-4995.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public as well as the different things that the center has to offer such as a great variety of workshops. They are held every Tuesday, at 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information, call 848-8210.

Learn Computer Applications for the "working" world using Windows '95 and '98 and Microsoft Office 2000 software, Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Publisher. Class offered: Monday-Friday, 2:15-6:15 p.m. Location: Contra Costa County Office of Education, 13925 San Pablo Ave., Suite No. 111, San Pablo. For information call 237-0840 or visit the web site at www.cocoe.k12.ca.us/rop.

"What Is Meditation," is a peaceful and practical introduction to the basics of meditation. The free seminar takes place at Barnes and Noble Book-sellers, 2352 Shattuck Ave. Pragma

Dove is the facilitator. Call 644-0861 for additional information. Emotions Anonymous: Twelve-Step meetings every Sunday at 8 p.m. Call 238-8226 for Berkeley location.

Theater, Dance & Film

Shotgun Players presents Adam Book's "A Fairy's Tail," at 8 p.m. Saturday, March 23, at Julia Morgan Theater, 2640 College Ave. The story, written expressly for Shotgun players, is a tale of a tough little girl who seeks the freedom to tell her own story. Tickets: \$18 adults, \$12 children and seniors. For more information, call 704-8210.

WIT Productions, 2424 10th St., presents Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice," through March 31 at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave. Hours are: Wednesday through Thursday, 7 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m., Sunday, 2 p.m. Cost: \$25, general admission. Help price Wednesday. Discounts available; call for details. Call 925-798-1300 for reservations or more information.

Learn easy international folk dances, fun for all ages at the Albany YMCA, 921 Kains Ave. No experience necessary. Wear comfortable shoes and come prepared for a good time. Ad-

mission: Adults \$2 and \$1 for kids. For more information, call 525-1130. **Family Folkdancing** takes place on the third Sundays, 1-2:30 p.m. at Ashkenaz Music and Dance Community Center, 1317 San Pablo Ave. Instructor: Denise Schultz Weiss. Bring your feet and a spirit of fun. No experience necessary. An opportunity for families to dance and laugh together. Drop in for good fun and exercise. All ages welcome. Drop-in class, no registration needed. Adults \$3, children \$2. Call 632-3713 for additional information.

Swing Dance Classes! Learn East coast swing and Lindy Hop with Michael and Persephone of Shagtime Dance Instruction, on Mondays at the Work Studio, 2566 Telegraph Ave. Beginning Lindy Hop runs 8:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. East Coast Swing from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. and beginning Lindy Hop 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays, at The Beat, 2560 Ninth St. Classes run as a monthly series. For more information, call Michael Marangio at 528-7858.

Classes

Vieta Community College offers classes in Adventure Travel, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Thursdays through May 23. The course covers various kinds of adventure travel: hard adventure, soft adventure, and cultural/spiritual adventure. The curriculum includes adventure travel specials such as biking mountaineering, overland trips, safaris, rafting, hiking, small boat and expedition-style cruising, and more. For more information, call 981-2931.

Albany Adult School offers classes in Chinese, Dutch, French, German, Italian and Spanish this quarter. Most classes meet in the evening once a week for 10 weeks. A few are offered in the afternoon also. Meet at 601 San Gabriel Ave. in Albany, or across the street at the Albany Middle School. Average cost is \$48 plus books. Call the Adult School at 559-6580 for more information.

Folkdance classes, Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 53 Arlington Ave. (across from the Kensington Library). Simple and clear lessons for people of all levels. Emphasis is good music and fun. Cost: \$30 for 6-week session (prorated fees apply), \$8 for drop in session. For more information, call Mel Hartle, at 848-5289 before 9 p.m.

Vieta Community College, 2020 Millita St., offers its new Sunrise College this spring with classes in accounting, e-commerce, business, Java programming, English, ESL, statistics and

Spanish for business. Classes start at 7 a.m. Call 981-2930 for more information. **Assets Senior Employment** training program for people 55 and older looking for work when you learn, experience with children? You can earn credit in Early Childhood Education while being paid soon. Call 258-3534 for more information.

The Albany YMCA offers the classes for elementary school age children. The sports and dance programs and Hip Hop and art programs such as coloring are available. For more information, call 559-6580.

The Berkeley Adult School offers Adult Basic Education, School Diploma, General Educational Development classes, and more. Preparation classes are offered to earn a GED diploma. Preparation for US Citizenship classes. The classes also offer a variety of vocational education, computer classes, foreign language to Computer Applications, Computer Applications, for additional information.

The South Berkeley Senior Center, 2939 Ellis St., offers classes for seniors. For additional information and class scheduling, call Interview Clinics appointment. Point Center at the UC Berkeley, are held on Wednesdays from 9-11 by appointment. minute sessions are for members and \$20 for non-members. Call the Center at 848-6242 for a message to reserve a telephone. Be sure to leave a message.

The van der Zanden School, Ileton, No. 9, offers classes. All levels. Call 843-9443 for more information.

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The project will begin in a couple of weeks and should be completed by this April or May, according to Dan Clark, a city engineer and public works manager. It will include a combination climbing structure, slides and some toy equipment, and will be accessible to the disabled.

The structure will be updated to meet state safety standards, with safety walls to prevent little ones from falling off, a safer bark-like material on the floor of the structure and equipment intended to prevent children from getting their heads caught. Netting will be installed to prevent entry of wayward balls knocked out from the nearby baseball field.

"The state has specific requirements for play structures to make sure they're safe for children to play on and that's what

we're working on," said Clark.

Parents will be able to monitor their younger and older kids on benches that will sit in a grassy area between the two play structures. There will also be new lighting, landscaping and some bushes planted to deter graffiti on the nearby sports equipment storage building. Inscribed bricks purchased by residents as a fundraising device will be placed along the walkways near the playgrounds.

"A lot of folks come when juniors and high-schoolers have ball games," said Clark, "so they can have a place now with full family activity with that renovation."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or at alopez1@cctimes.com

Machen said few ideas for the ferry are set in stone, though presentations include statistics on how many people want to see the ferries as well as pictures and information on the types of vessels used, including a plan to design one that gives off zero emissions.

"We're not getting site-specific," she said. "We're looking at the entire Bay Area region from 10,000 feet up."

By the end of year, a recommended plan and an environmental report covering the entire region will go to the state legislature, with options varying from extending the current service to 28 terminals or keeping the current ferry service as is. The legislature will make a decision on the plan in 2003.

Holan said a possible ferry stop near the Gilman waterfront would improve the area, provided some land owned by Golden Gate Fields is thrown into the mix. The ferry service, which supporters say is cheaper than other modes of transportation, would open the waterfront to more people, with

more buses making stops and more bicyclists and pedestrians flocking to the area.

In addition, the city's general and waterfront plans have called for the use of ferries, Holan said.

Machen said a survey revealed that 69 percent of people said they were either much more likely or somewhat likely to support a dollar increase in the Bay Bridge toll if it supported ferry service. And two-thirds of people surveyed said it was a good idea to increase transit options following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

While only 42 percent of all commuters are ferry users, she added, 45 percent of those said funding ferry service was a high priority.

"For every one person on the boat, there are a hundred more who think it should be a high priority," said Machen. "We believe that's a good marketing opportunity there. There is a demand."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com

the sold-out productions, which include four shows a year, as well as two drama camps for children.

Activities, from planning meetings to rehearsals, are held there nearly every day, said Collins.

"Anything that would make for better safety, for staff and the actors was our aim," she added.

Residents have donated the bulk of money needed for the theater renovations, after a capital campaign started in March of 2000. The City of El Cerrito included \$100,000 toward the project in last year's budget. Each phase is costing about \$325,000.

"All of the improvements will improve the artistic as well as general look of the theater," said Flynn, who still takes small roles in theater productions. "There are younger people working with the theater now who are just as enthusiastic as I was when I started and it comforts me to

think that the theater will last a long time."

Reach Alan Lopez at 510-243-3578 or alopez1@cctimes.com

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Years of dancing experience help student land full scholarship

EL CERRITO — Dallas McMurray, a senior at El Cerrito High School, has been awarded a full tuition scholarship at California Institute of Arts in Valencia, where he has auditioned and been accepted into the dance department.

McMurray has been studying dance — tap, jazz, ballet and acrobatics for 13 years at Katie's Dance Studio in El Cerrito and the Duane Dance Academy in Hayward.

He has also been a member of the dance production class at El Cerrito High for three years under the direction of Jacqueline Burgess. McMurray has performed all over the Bay Area and California, appearing at Disneyland, the California State Fair,

the Alameda County Fair and the National Aerobics Championships.

McMurray has been a featured dancer in the summer musical productions at the Contra Costa Civic Theatre and at the Masquers Theater for more than five years.

Dallas is the son of Alfred and Janet McMurray of El Cerrito and the grandson of Dorothea Titsworth, also of El Cerrito.



Dallas McMurray

Traffic

FROM PAGE A1

■ Extend parking restriction time for passenger loading areas to 3:30 p.m. to provide additional time for afternoon pick-up and drop-off activities;

■ Rotate passenger loading-zone curb signs by 90 degrees to face oncoming traffic on

Brighton Avenue.

A study of traffic mitigations is a requirement under the conditions of the construction of the school.

The board discussed the issue at its meeting Tuesday and agreed with most of the comments, though there was some disagreement over the possibility of having a police sting.

Board president Tom Farrell

suggested that the neighbors in the area give feedback on the issue before the board makes a final decision.

The board's comments and the report are being sent back to the consultant for further tweaking.

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STEVE MASLANKA/STAFF

STUDENT VOLUNTEERS Lily Goldschmidt and Marius Enachesu, both seniors at Albany High, practice making coffee drinks at Cafe Eclectica.

Cafe

FROM PAGE A1

and business intern. "We can listen to music, play Playstation 2—we can do anything. You're not really regulated in any way, as long as you're not going crazy."

Shortly before 8 p.m. first of three punk bands began the loud roar of a sound-check, and about 20 people filed in, paying a \$3 cover charge and then waiting for the performance to start. Many people just hung out and chatted in the homey environment.

Albany High School seniors Columbine Robinson and Dax Saunders said the cafe is known by students at Albany High School, though she admitted that some students thought it was too "popular" or "preppy." Saunders said it had been his regular hang-out for five months and it has a "lot of potential and it could be a fun place," though he lamented that few people are taking advantage of it.

"I think people don't realize the talent here," said Robinson. "We usually get pretty good bands that aren't public yet and aren't well known," added Saunders.

Gianna Kalagian-Federico, the

cafe manager, said the cafe holds one or two shows at the end of the week, with some comedy groups and a lot of bands performing.

"The big thing that's pretty exciting is we have all-age music shows at the cafe," said Kalagian-Federico. "So we have punk, alt-rock, hip hop, and I guess what I'll call electro funk."

There is a heavy emphasis on preserving the environment at the cafe, with among other things, a compost pile in the back, artsy signs that encourage patrons to recycle and the use of donated tables, chairs and other equipment to avoid throwing them in landfills. Non-toxic paints are used, as are ceiling fans to avoid air-conditioning, said Kalagian-Federico. It makes sense, as Community Learning Services, a non-profit devoted to environmental education among other causes, now makes its offices there and pays the rent that keeps the cafe doors open.

A few years ago, former Albany mayor Ed McManus was giving the building that once occupied his McManus' Pub to the city. Some Albany High School PTA parents got wind of the situation and thought it would be a great opportunity to create the teen cafe, considering Albany High School

at the time was torn down and the city was looking for a youth-oriented venue. Carolie Sly, the director of CLS, happened to be president of the PTA at the time.

"There was no place for teenagers in Albany and this seemed like such a wonderful opportunity to have place like that," said parent Molly Mitchell.

"We're also reaching out to a broader community other than Albany," she added. "We'd really like it to have a broader audience, just for teens in the area to meet up and mix with other kids. Albany is such a small school that it would be nice to have other energies."

More recently, the cafe created paid internships for students, with about seven people taking advantage. Saunders has been an events intern for about four months, making ads for the cafe, distributing fliers and creating the cafe's Web site. Enachesu has been learning cafe management and is a business intern.

Enachesu explained that since he was already hanging out there, he might as well get paid for it.

"You can sit and do whatever you want to do without being home," he said. "It's the same thing as being home, except you're not."



JOANNA JHANDA

SAFIA ABDUL-SABUL mixes cheesecake batter at the teen center.

skating twice and once frolicking in the snow at Lake Tahoe. The teens said they came because their parents wanted them to or because they heard about it from other friends.

"For me there was nothing to do, I needed something to do, I was just getting bored, man," said Mario Halterman, hanging out with some friends in the hall.

A friend told eighth-grader Stephanie Johnson about the program. "I decided to come down here because my friend asked me and I liked it," she said. "It's cool down here, we do lots of activities." Added eighth-grader Athena Oleguerra: "My mom signed me up so I could keep myself busy, instead of staying home and

watching TV."

Bilbas hopes more teen-agers will take advantage of the program. "I love it," she said. "It's very challenging, they're a very unique group of kids to work with, because of their age, they're starting to branch out on their own."

With about 30 students participating, most from nearby Portola Middle School, Kortz said the program has been a success and that she would ultimately like to see a building devoted to teens full time.

"It really fills a void," concluded Bilbas, "to make sure that kids from the middle school have some place to go after school."

AC Transit considering plans to raise bus fare

■ Agency cites budget pressures, says one option hikes cash fare by 40 cents and would bring in an extra \$6 million

By Kara Shire
STAFF WRITER

AC Transit is considering a plan to boost its bruised budget by bumping up its bus fares, a move that could come as early as July.

The AC Transit board will vote next week on a plan to bring three rate hike options before the public in hearings tentatively scheduled for May 2.

Depending on which plan is approved, adult cash fares and ticket prices could go up by as much as 40 cents.

"This is tied directly to budgetary pressures," said AC Transit

spokesman Mike Mills. "While our passengers do contribute at the fare box, most of our expenses are paid out of ... state and regional tax revenues, and those are down. So we're suffering."

The last time AC Transit riders saw a fare increase was in October 1999, when rates jumped from \$1.25 to the current \$1.35.

Jeff Hobson, policy director for the Bay Area Transportation and Land Use Coalition, said transit rate hikes are a symptom of a greater problem.

"This really points to the need to develop more stable funding for transit operations," said Hobson.

"That's always a problem for transit agencies: getting the money to operate those daily services, the money to pay its drivers, to buy tires, to get buses on the street."

The AC Transit board is expected to decide at its meeting

next week which of the options should go forward. It's possible all three plans could be put up for public review.

The first option, which would bring in an additional \$4.3 million annually, calls for raising the adult cash fare to \$1.50 from \$1.35 and adult tickets to \$1.15 and adult passes to \$50 from \$45. A second option would add for the adult passes would be \$150 monthly or \$150 annually.

A second option would add \$4.3 million annually to the adult cash fare by adding adult discount tickets and other passes would be \$150 monthly or \$150 annually.

The third option would raise the cash fare to \$1.50 from \$1.35 and adult tickets to \$1.15 from \$1.00. The board would also raise annual revenues by \$8 million.

East Bay communities unite to fight cancer May 18

■ Third annual 24-hour relay raises money, awareness

EL CERRITO — Volunteers from the American Cancer Society are looking for El Cerrito, Kensington, Albany and Berkeley residents to participate in teams for 24 hours from 10 a.m., Saturday, May 18 through 10 a.m., Sunday, May 19 at the El Cerrito High School track as part of the local annual Relay For Life.

The American Cancer Society sponsors 24-hour Relays in communities throughout the country to raise money to fight cancer through research, education, advocacy and service.

Since they began in 1985, the relays have become the American Cancer Society's premier community outreach program bringing thousands of volunteers into the fight against cancer. In events all over the nation, the teams raised \$200 million for the organization last year.

This will be the third event

sponsored in these East Bay communities. Relay organizer Janice Jordan said participants hope to broaden the level of participation this year and outdo the \$20,000 raised last year.

Volunteers are signing up teams of eight to 15 people who are sponsored to take turns running, walking or spinning a wheelchair for 24 hours around the El Cerrito High School track. Each relay team member is asked to raise at least \$100. Dozens of community members and local businesses are donating food and providing entertainment to keep the relay moving through the night.

The event kicks off with a Survivor's Lap. At 10:15 a.m. on Saturday, May 18, hundreds of cancer survivors and those fighting for their lives from the East Bay will take a walk around the track to honor those who have been touched by cancer and who are coming together to fight it.

Then, at 8:26 p.m. as the sun is setting on May 18, everyone will participate in a Circle of

Hope. People make their way toward individual laps, running the track in the loved ones who have lives or are dealing with

The closing ceremony is at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday. For information on participation and other opportunities, call a survivor lap and raise money, please contact Janice Jordan at 510-525-2800. American Cancer Society site at www.cancer.org.

According to the American Cancer Society, cancer in Alameda and Contra Costa counties are expected to reach 4,000 this year. New cancer cases are expected in 1999, 9,900. The society's Relay For Life proceeds to help how to reduce the risk to support people with disease and to research cures. About 90 percent of funds raised by the society go to prevention, research and treatment services and fundraise

Narsai Toast and gala to benefit Berkeley

STAFF REPORT

Bay Area culinary expert Narsai David will host the 10th anniversary of the Narsai Toast, a gourmet gala and auction to benefit Berkeley Repertory Theatre.

The evening will feature hors d'oeuvres and a four-course dinner prepared by some of the nation's finest chefs: Jean-Pierre Dubray of the Ritz-Carlton San Francisco; David Gingrass of Hawthorne Lane in San Francisco; Laurent Gras of Fifth Floor in San Francisco; Emily Luchetti of Farallon in San Francisco; and Piero Selvaggio and Angelo Auriana of Valentino in Santa Monica.

The toast will be held Friday,

April 5, at the Ritz-Carlton San Francisco, with a reception and silent auction at 6 p.m. and gourmet dinner and live auction at 7:30 p.m.

David will reprise his role as auctioneer for the evening. Packages include a weekend stay for six at Jordan Vineyard & Winery; a New York trip including tickets to Broadway show "The Producers"; a Seaborn cruise in the Mediterranean; and a Wolf range and SubZero wine cooler.

The Narsai Toast is Berkeley Rep's largest and most successful annual fund-raiser. Over the course of the decade, the event has raised more than \$1 million to help sup-

NARSAI TOAST

WHEN: Friday, April 5, 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.
WHERE: The Ritz-Carlton, San Francisco, 800 Stockton St.
HOW MUCH: Tickets are \$100 per person.
CALL: 647-2907

port artistic work and outreach at the theatre. David was one of the members of Berkeley Rep's Board of Directors. He served as president of the board from 1981 to 1984. "Food News with Narsai" is on KCBS in San Francisco.

Chamber will hear update on Plaza

EL CERRITO — The El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce February Business Luncheon will be held at noon, Tuesday, March 26

at the Mira Vista Golf & Country Club. The guest speaker will be Laurinda Stout, the manager of El Cerrito Plaza. There will be a

question-and-answer session. Stout will provide a date. Reservations are \$10. Call 510-233-7040 for more information.

GOING TO THE TOP

East Bay Women in Business Roundtable Breakfast

In Partnership with Women in Technology International (WITI)



Osprey Orielle Lake

Designer, sculptor and founder of The International Cheemah Monument, Osprey Orielle Lake will speak about her momentous project and its meaning to women, the diverse cultures of the world, and business. Cheemah, Mother of the Spirit-Fire, is an 18-foot tall bronze monument dedicated to symbolize cultural diversity, world unity and care for the earth. The International Cheemah Monument project will place eight Cheemah monuments around the world to create an inspiring bridge between cultures. Two of the monuments have already been produced and placed — one at the Hamburg International Airport in Germany and the other at a cultural center in Majorca, Spain. A third will be placed and dedicated in May of 2002 in Oakland's Jack London Square.

This breakfast promises to inspire and generate insight as this exceptional artist shares about her career creating challenging and poignant works of art, as well as training young people to become confident artists and business people who will create meaningful additions to their communities and the world around them.

Friday, April 5th, 2002
7:15-7:30 am - Breakfast
7:30-9:00 am - Meeting

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Real Estate & Home

Advertising supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclarion, The Piedmonter

Friday, March 15, 2002

Section B

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B13]

Open Home Guide See what's on sale in your neighborhood [B8]

Two-story Italianate villa in Rockridge has a colorful history

CENTURY 21 HERITAGE REAL ESTATE
Century local residents will easily recognize the historic "Bivins" House as a gracious but imposing dark Victorian home, which sits back from Chabot Road on one of the last truly estate-sized lots in the area.

Originally part of a subdivision called the "White Tract," which encompassed the area from College Avenue to Ross on the east and from Chabot to Florio to the north, the site was purchased in 1873. The new owners, the Bivins family, built the home that same year.

Reportedly, the earliest occupants included Benjamin Franklin Bivins, a miner from New York, and Ebenezer Bivins, a Connecticut-

born farmer.

The home has a colorful history of owners including Captain John C. Ainsworth a Mississippi steamboat pilot, who owned the home for over a decade.

The Arthur Artlett family were longtime occupants (1913-1923). Artlett, was head of the State Harbor Commission and a Panama-Pacific International Exposition Commissioner. Artlett, used the parlor to discuss politics with Governor Hiram Johnson.

In 1945, engineer Hugh O'Neil (the property's most recent owner), purchased the house without even seeing the interior.

Artlett's son, Arthur M. Artlett, visited the O'Neil house in the 1960's, and remarked that the interior looked just the same as 40 years earlier. Mrs. O'Neil, who greatly enjoyed Artlett's reminiscences about the house, expressed her own in an earlier interview. "Isn't this a great home?" she asked, not expecting an answer, "lots of dignity, good proportions."

The home was built in a popular middle-class style of 1870s known as Italianate. Characteristic features of the Villa are the two-story polygonal bay, the truncated hip roof, the corbeled brick chimney, the narrow bracketed eaves and the distinctively tall, curved-top, hooded windows, crowned by keystones. The large, tall windows permit plenty of light to enter the graciously-sized rooms.

Tall, round columns support a grand porte-cochere or carriage entrance, topped by a balustrade that matches that of the living room porch. There is a built-in bench for waiting. The entry ornamentation features leaded glass windows in a little bay and a beveled glass door with leaded fanlight.

The large main entry hall leads through glass-paned doors to a spacious dining room with its im-

pressive chandelier. To the right through similar transparent doors is the living room with its gilt-framed mirror over one of the many fireplaces. Also off the entry is the library which connects to a second parlor. The large eat-in kitchen and utility spaces are to the left and enjoy the lush garden views at the back of the house.

Up the staircase are four bedrooms, with two of these being generously oversized. One of the bedrooms has access to an outside porch and there is hallway access to the balustrade encircled porch over the porte cochere. There are "period" baths with clawfoot tubs and marble vanities on each floor. The integrity of the original design has been maintained with no sign of structural changes.

The house is very similar in size and shape to the Cameron-Stanford house on Lake Merritt. Like the Cameron-Stanford house, 6165 Chabot has been recognized as an "A" level (highest importance) structure for its historical and architectural significance by the Oakland Cultural Heritage Survey.

A stable once stood at the rear of the property. Today a driveway encircles the house and expansive grounds (nearly one-half acre). Landscaping includes a palm and a large magnolia tree that were planted around the time of construction. Harwood (Temescal) Creek runs at the rear of the property. The house stands on a high basement which has protected it from occasional flooding.

As the most recent lady of the house, Mrs. O'Neil, remarked after Artlett's memorable visit, "One of the nicest things about this home is it ties you to (the) past. You have a sense of belonging."

The home at 6165 Chabot is a rare property that will soon be home to new homeowners who wish to own a piece of history and maybe



CENTURY 21 HERITAGE REAL ESTATE
HARDWOOD FLOORS gleam in the living room, above, and the entryway, below. Large windows bring natural light to both areas.



CENTURY 21 HERITAGE REAL ESTATE
become part of it themselves. The home will be open Sunday, March 17, 2002 from 2 to 4:30 p.m. It is offered at \$1,300,000. For additional information, contact Steven Biasatti, Century 21 Heritage Real Estate in Montclair at 510-339-8900, ext. 239.



CENTURY 21 HERITAGE REAL ESTATE
CURVED-TOP WINDOWS and narrow bracketed eaves distinguish the house at 6165 Chabot Road in Oakland.

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Beautiful Mediterranean 3++BR/2.5 Bath. Dramatic master suite, living room with fireplace, formal dining room, gourmet kitchen. Lovely yards. Close to Lake, Lake Temescal and transportation. 101 Avoca Ave. Mahin Rajabi 510-339-8400



PRIME GLENVIEW CHARMER... \$625,000
This legal duplex, just one block to Piedmont, has been carefully maintained and offers gunwood trim, wonderful hardwood floors and a breakfast nook and bar in main house, while the rental unit below has 1 bedroom, 1 bath and a bright floorplan. 101 Edgewood Ave. Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

WORTH THE MARKET \$625,000
Back from the street for ultimate privacy, this Montclair cottage resting on a magnificent level lot, approx. 1000 sq. ft., offers random plank HWF, built-ins, high wood beam ceilings and a back yard that goes on forever. Offering endless possibilities to expand. Needs a little love, but what potential! Walk to Montclair Village. 10 Snake Road. Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

Open Sunday 3/17

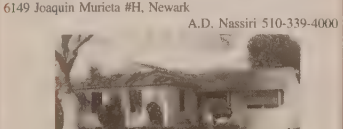
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Tranquility abounds with this 2++ Bedroom, 2 Bath updated Montclair home. Huge level yard features year round creek, fruit trees, and mature landscaping. 110 Glenwood Glade. Cece Rosaia 510-339-4000



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BRING YOUR CONTRACTOR'S! \$388,000
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BEST OF THE BEST \$350,000
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NEW LISTING! \$259,000
Top floor, end unit with an abundance of light. Cathedral ceilings, pergio floors. Almost like new. 240 Caldecott Lane #304. Martha Shin 510-339-8400

1940'S OAKLAND HILLS BUNGALOW \$249,000
Quiet and serene, 1940's 2/1 bungalow with luscious yard and gardens, spacious rooms, family-style kitchen. 3124 82nd Ave. Sherdella Sims 510-339-4000

By Appointment

HISTORIC CUL-DE-SAC \$525,000
Walk to Piedmont Ave. shops and restaurants. Charming brown shingle with adorable guest cottage. Spacious floorplan, LR with fireplace, formal dining room with built-ins, hardwood floors, and a sunny breakfast room with bay window. Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400

By Appointment

HISTORIC BROWN SHINGLE \$478,000
3 Bedroom, 2 Bath. Deep lot. Could be a beauty fixed up. Steps from Lake Merritt. Teresa Chan 510-339-4000

COMING NEXT WEEK \$469,000
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Using income property as a tax shelter depends on the rules

Investors buy income property for financial growth, equity accumulation and tax shelter. There are many ways to report a repair. Some repairs can be used as acceptable write-offs in the year of expense, and many repairs must be capitalized over the life of the investment. The I.R.S. sets guidelines for deduction and learning the variables can make the difference between immediate tax savings, and long savings over time.

Repairs

Repairing a leaky faucet, or hiring a plumber to fix a pipe that is leaking under the building should be a repair and used in the tax year the expense was paid. Replacing a hot water heater is a replacement of an essential part of the investment. However, the hot water heater has a useable life. The I.R.S. may require the \$700 to \$3,000 hot water heater to be deducted over the expected life of the investment. If a window is broken the cost or repair is an immediate deduction.

Replacing all of the existing windows in a 4-plex at a cost of \$14,000 or more may have to be



KUCHENTHAL

deducted over the expected life of the window. There are guidelines that the I.R.S. dictates, and your accountant should inform you as an investor how you should conduct any repair and how you should report it.

Capitalized Items

When you send out a roofer to do a roof patch job or repair, that is obviously a deduction for that tax year. If you buy a new 30 year fiber-glass shingle fireproof roof that expense will have to be capitalized over the life of the roof. Some roofs like a tar and gravel roof are only guaranteed for 10 or 15 years. What is the Tax Law for writing off each of these roofs? Your accountant will advise you so make sure you know how the deduction will affect your

tax shelter and over how many years.

One of the heavier costs of investing and an item that is capitalized over the life of the investment is the cost of buying the mortgage, or points. If you buy a \$500K 4-plex and you pay 2 points on a loan amount of \$400K you will spend \$8,000. This will be capitalized until you exchange into the move-up investment, or you cash out. At that time it will affect your basis into the next property, or lower your gain on

sale for you will be able to use the unused amount of the points that remain.

1031 tax-deferred exchange

When you buy for example a duplex for \$250k you establish a basis for land and improvements. One example is the 20-80 percent rule. This would mean that \$50k would be land and not deductible, and

\$200K would be the improvement value and deducted using a Straight-Line basis over the allowable number of years. What is horrible about exchanging is that the original basis stays the original basis.

So, if you exchange into a six-plex and purchase the move-up investment for \$900K you do not gain any deductibility. This is called "Carrying your basis forward". So if you do 4 exchanges over 20 years

you have your original basis that is it. This is called the "give and take" rule. Being an educated investor makes you more money for buying and selling and having a professional accountant to advise you on the current tax laws and changes.

David Kuchenthal is a tax property specialist with Spear

To be conforming or non-conforming: That is the mortgage question

INMAN NEWS FEATURES

You may notice as you shop for a mortgage that lenders make a distinction between conforming and nonconforming loans. Conforming loans tend to have the lowest interest rates available. Nonconforming loans, also called jumbo loans, often have interest rates that are about 1/2 percent higher than conforming loan rates.

Conforming loans are packaged by originating lenders who intend to sell them on the secondary money market to Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac. These two organizations purchase mortgages from lenders and resell them to investors. In so doing, they provide a ready source of mortgage money for the home finance industry.

Each year Freddie Mac and Fannie Mae establish a new conforming loan limit. As of Jan. 1, 2002, the conforming limit was raised to \$300,700 from \$275,000. This increase makes lower-cost financing available to more people. In expensive real estate markets, like California and New York, the increased loan limit will make housing affordable to many who couldn't previously qualify to buy.

The higher limit will benefit first-time buyers particularly as interest rates rise. At the end of December, interest rates had already risen to the July 2001 level. Rates are expected to rise further as the economy gathers steam.

Borrowing a \$300,000 mortgage at 7 1/4 percent rather than 7 3/4 percent saves the borrower about \$100 a month. For some, the \$100 a month savings could make the difference between qualifying and not qualifying for a mortgage.

House hunting tip: Conforming loans may offer the best rates and terms on the market, but they do pose restrictions for many home buyers. Because the loans are intended for sale, they must conform to rigid guidelines. Consequently it's harder to qualify for these loans. They usually require squeaky-clean credit.

If you have difficulty qualifying for a conforming loan, talk to a portfolio lender. Portfolio lenders generally don't sell their loans, so they have more flexibility in qualifying borrowers.

Another restriction is the upper loan limit. Home buyers who need to finance more than \$300,700 may be able to reap the benefits of a



DIAN HYMER

Starting Out

low-interest rate conforming loan by using piggyback financing.

With piggyback financing, the borrower uses a combination of first and second mortgages to finance the home purchase. If the first mortgage doesn't exceed \$300,700, the borrower takes advantage of the lower conforming interest rate.

For example, let's say you want to buy a home for \$450,000. You have \$100,000 for a down payment and you need to finance \$350,000. The monthly payment on a \$350,000 jumbo loan at 7 3/4 percent is \$2506.

However, using piggyback financing, your monthly payment will be about \$2420, a savings of \$86 a month and \$1,032 a year. A conforming \$300,700 mortgage at 7 1/4 percent will cost \$2050 per month. A second mortgage for \$49,300 at 8 1/4 percent will cost \$370, on a 15-year loan with payments amortized over 30 years. The 30-year amortization lowers your monthly payment, and makes qualifying easier.

A disadvantage of piggyback financing is that the second mortgage is usually not fully amortized. In the above example, the second loan will be due in 15 years, at which point you will owe the mortgage lender about \$42,000. However, the chance of keeping this financing for 15 years is slim. Most homeowners sell or refinance within five to seven years.

The closing: Homeowners who are refinancing can also take advantage of low-cost conforming mortgages, as long as the amount they refinance doesn't exceed \$300,700. For some homeowners, it makes sense to pay down a larger mortgage in order to save a 1/2 percent in interest rate.

Dian Hymer is author of "Starting Out, the Complete Home Buyer's Guide," Chronicle Books. She is a top-producing broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office. She can be reached at 510-339-4777.

Number 391 in a series of true experiences in real estate

Washing the inside of a refrigerator is a tedious process. I hate doing it, it takes so long. First, all the food has to come out. Jars of pickles and mustard, packages of tortillas, milk and juice cartons and plastic wrapped left-overs.

Although my kids frequently complain that there is nothing in the house to eat, the refrigerator contains a ton of stuff, all of which must be placed somewhere before I can clean the box where it has been stored. Egg cartons sit on the kitchen table with sour cream and capers and a lone bottle of champagne.

Decisions are necessary. The green onions look too far gone, probably aren't revivable. Toss them. A bowl of rice and mushrooms won't be eaten by anyone. Let that go, too.

I remember how snazzy, how sparkling white the plastic insides and clear glass shelves looked when the refrigerator was new. I have cleaned it a number of times, the last time taking everything apart, washing each shelf on both sides, took out the drawers, too.

The refrigerator looked so good when I was done that I showed it off to friends when they came to visit. "Hey, look," I said, opening the door wide to show off my accomplishment. "My refrigerator is super clean!"

I wonder what the refrigerator designer people were thinking when they molded into the interior all those grooves. Milk drips into them and dries like glue. Even an old toothbrush and hot, soapy water barely urges the brown go away. The ripply bottoms of the produce drawers are also a problem. Fos-



TARPOFF AND TALBERT

True Experiences

silized lettuce leaves stick fast and must be slowly dissolved before they loosen.

It takes a couple of hours to clean the refrigerated section. Cleaning out the freezer too takes longer and involves removing the contents and turning the temperature up. If I don't wait until the inside is warmer, my wet sponge freezes as I wipe the surfaces.

There are people who never clean their refrigerators. Just as I never clean my oven (I really think that I never have), some refrigerators are allowed to collect crumbs and spills for years and years. No one tries to wipe or wash them away. Then, one day, either the refrigerator dies and is replaced and the cycle begins again, or the owner moves leaving the refrigerator behind.

I used to move a lot. When I was young, I lived in many different places, left many refrigerators. I remember how, after I'd moved out, I'd go back to the old place to clear out and wipe down the refrigerator. Each time, the process surprised me. There was more in the refrigerator than I remembered. I didn't have enough boxes to hold the food, the garbage can was full, the floor needed mopping. Washing a refrigerator, I found each time I did it, is cold and watery. It's a dumb, boring job.

When I went into real estate, it did not occur to me that refrigera-

tors would be a part of it, but they are. It seems like we're always having to deal with someone's left-behind refrigerator, and it always needs cleaning. Nice new white refrigerators and old dented brown ones — all must be cleaned. I figure it costs around \$100 to get a refrigerator looking as good as it can. This seems like a lot of money.

People do depend on having refrigeration, of course, and buying a new refrigerator is more expensive than cleaning an old one. Many buyers hope appliances will be provided. There aren't extra funds after purchase to get new ones. And so, I frequently wonder, at what point does it make sense to not clean a refrigerator, but instead to get rid of it?

Especially the old ones that noisily run and guzzle energy, I say that if we can, let's throw them out, and do it while they're still dirty. Especially the olive green ones and the dark brown ones, big and bulky and sticking out too far in the room, if circumstances allow, let's let them go.

When we are preparing a house for sale, making lists of what we think should be done before buyers will see it, we estimate what hiring someone to clean will cost. We tell the seller approximately how much to allow for vacuuming the floors, washing the windows, showers and sinks. And the darn refrigerator — which takes, it seems to me, a disproportionate share of the cleaning budget.

It is frequently the case that an entire house can be swept and tidied in less time than it takes to clean one refrigerator. What a waste of good labor.

Whether or not to leave the refrigerator for the next occupant has to be decided, I think, on a house

by house basis. Sometimes the wise one way, sometimes not. If the refrigerator is clean, it will have to be replaced. If the old fridge will be replaced when the new one is brought in, it may not be difficult to get the old one. The Seller doesn't want old refrigerators.

There is recent good news. Now, today, as a result of a sign of the energy crisis, times we live in, refrigerators can be carted away for not being able to be cleaned. Only that, the refrigerator will be paid for giving up dollars!

Yes, it's true. Customers PG & E, who live in Alameda, Costa, and some others can avail themselves of the erator/Freezer Recycling sponsored by the local utility company.

Call 800-599-5755 between hours of 6 a.m. and 6 p.m. day through Friday, and pick-up.

The appliance can't be must run. But up to four refrigerators or freezers per corner will be removed. Seller should be made to take ahead. Checks will be made four to six weeks after collection.

There's money to be made. How many old, dirty refrigerators have you got?

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How to compare reverse mortgages



ROBERT BRUSS

therapist visit several times a week. Needless to say, this care is expensive, and very little is paid by Medicare and his supplemental health insurance. Thankfully, his free-and-clear house is worth at least \$400,000. How large a reverse mortgage can he get, and for how many years? — Frank G.

Dear Frank: A reverse mortgage would be ideal for your father's situation. However, if he permanently moves out of his residence, then the reverse mortgage "matures" and becomes payable.

There are three major reverse mortgage lenders: FHA (HECM),

Fannie Mae and Financial Freedom Plan. The most popular is the FHA plan. But it has the lowest limits (which vary by community). Fannie Mae's nationwide loan limit is \$300,700 (but higher in Alaska and Hawaii). Financial Freedom Plan has the highest limit, up to \$1 million.

Each reverse mortgage lender offers a credit line, lump sum, monthly payments or combination of these. To compare the plans for your father's situation, go to the on-line calculators at www.financial-freedom.com.

More details are in my special report, "Reverse Mortgage Tax-free

Income Pros and Cons for Senior Citizen Homeowners," available for \$4 from Robert Bruss, 251 Park Rd., Burlingame, CA 94010 or by credit card at (800) 736-1736 or www.bob-bruss.com.

Can an airline pilot qualify as a real estate professional?

Dear Bob: You got my attention recently with your excellent article about unlimited tax deductions for realty investors. What is the source of the tax rule requiring at least 750 hours per year spent on rental prop-

See BRUSS, Page B4

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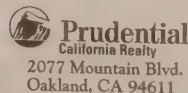


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Bruss

FROM PAGE B3

erties? My CPA never told me about this. I am an airline pilot, but I have eight rental properties on which I spend at least 25 hours every week. I am the full-time handyman and CEO, except when I'm at my airline job. — James D.

Dear James: Your CPA should have informed you about Internal Revenue Code 469 and its regulations, which provide the 750-hour rule. If your "regular job" were as a

real estate broker or salesperson, you would have no trouble qualifying for unlimited tax deductions from your rental properties.

However, since I presume you earn much more from your airline job than from your rental properties, I'm not certain if you can qualify for unlimited rental deductions.

But any unused rental property losses, usually from the depreciation deductions, can be "suspended" and saved for future use, such as when you make a profitable sale of one of those properties. For more details, please consult your tax adviser.

A look around the East Bay real estate community

BY BOBBIE REID

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

Attention public

FREE Workshops

Home Buyer Basics is a workshop for first-time homebuyers with a soup to nuts overview of all aspects of the home buying process. The class is conducted by Mortgage Broker, Karen Ward of RE Loan Mortgage and Jim Parkhurst of Prudential California Realty. Albany is the location and the date is Saturday, April 13 from 10 a.m. to

1 p.m. There is no cost for the class, but reservations are a must. For reservations call the Workshop Hotline at 510-718-2134.

Museum Lecture on "Our Houses"

The Alameda Museum presents the "Our Houses" lecture series for 2002. Prominent Bay Area authors and historians narrate the slide lectures. The museum is located on Alameda Avenue near Park Street in Alameda. The series 'Is scheduled through June. Thursday, March 28 is the next lecture in the series.

See REID, Page B6

Don't miss the Open Homes Guide on page B8

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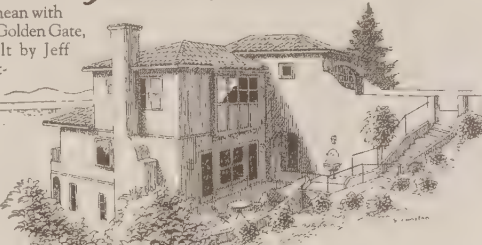
528-9292

DAVID RATOOSH / KEITH CARROLL - BROKER

Open Sunday, March 17, 2-4:30pm
NEW LISTING!

6191 Virgo Road, Oakland

Wonderful Mediterranean with fabulous San Francisco, Golden Gate, Bay Bridge view. Built by Jeff Armstrong, lots of built-ins, and lots of extras. 3BR/2.5BA plus master suite with fireplace & sitting room, formal dining room, living & family rooms with fireplaces, library and fully equipped gym.



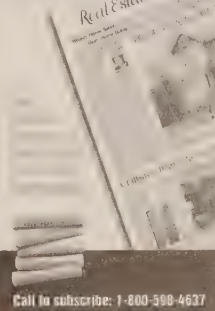
Offered at \$1,475,000

Francis Heath

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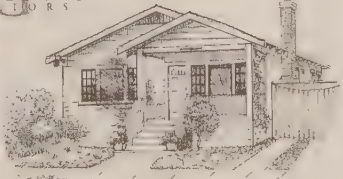
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1518 Blake Avenue, Berkeley

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This sweet Berkeley two bedroom, one bath bungalow features an updated kitchen that opens on to a deck and lovely garden.
Offered at \$419,000

LINDA WOLAN

OFFICE: 510.339.0400/240
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2944 Avalon Avenue, Berkeley

Grand Claremont Court classic! 5+BR/4.5BA, large family room, den, sun room, updated kitchen and more! Close to shops and BART.

Offered at \$1,900,000

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OAKLAND

OPEN SUNDAY 1-5. 291 ATHOL AVE. GRAND HOME. With 3 bedrooms, 1 bath & just a few blocks from Lake Merritt. Cottage in back offers mortgage relief and can help you qualify for a larger purchase. \$489,000. Realtor4info.com, Keiko McDonah, 510-522-4449.

OPEN SUNDAY 1-5. 303 NEWTON AVE. INVEST! This 4 unit home has many possibilities. Investment or live/rent. Located close to Lake Merritt in China Hill. \$549,000. Realtor4info.com, Keiko McDonah, 510-522-4449.

OPEN SAT. & SUN. 2-4. 3953 HANLY RD. NEW LISTING! Charming brown shingle on huge private lot in desirable lower Oakland. Pool, workshop, long driveway, detached garage. 2 bedrooms, formal living/dining rooms, large kitchen & breakfast room, hardwood floors, fireplace. First time on market in 50 years. \$449,000. Ann Bracci, 510-748-1807.

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4. 2367 BARTLETT ST. LOWER FRUITVALE. Totally renovated, move-in condition. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, approx. 1200 sq ft. New paint, new carpets, new kitchen linoleum, new roof, new kitchen counters, new bath. Bids reviewed 3/20/02. \$268,000. Don Patterson, 510-748-1117.

344 - 20TH ST. TOP DRAWER RESTAURANT. MUST SELL IMMEDIATELY. Terms: 50% cash, 50% O.W.C. \$650,000. Mary Ann Herber, 1-800-523-9424.

4256 SUTER ST. PRICE REDUCED ON THIS CONVENIENTLY LOCATED, 2+ bedrooms, 1 bath, approximately 1201 square feet. Large living & dining room, fireplace, laundry area. Long driveway, tool sheds. \$272,000. Moon Tam, 510-747-1620.

1362 E. 27th. NEW CHINATOWN AREA. 5 units plus 3 bedroom home on large lot. Needs TLC. \$825,000. Mary Ann Herber, 510-568-2040.

RICHMOND

2150 SAND DOLLAR DR. NEW LISTING IN MARINA BAY. 3 bedroom, 3 bath Tiburon model finally on the market. Largest model at Bay Front. Dramatic vaulted ceilings, park views, sunny patio off kitchen. \$374,000. Michael Studebaker, 877-865-2279.

COMING SOON, SUNSET POINTE. 3 bedroom home in Marina Bay.

COMING SOON, BAY FRONT. 2+ bedroom townhome in Marina Bay.

SOLD! 2215 SEA SHELL DR. 2+ bedroom Sausalito model. Call Michael for details, 877-865-2279.

TRACY

420 W. BEVERLY PLACE. ADORABLE HOME. Must see home with 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, living room with wood burning stove, updated kitchen with hardwood floors. New roof and super sized garage. Kathy Ghiselli, 510-522-6425.

We speak Mandarin, Cantonese and English
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EL CERRITO

NEW LISTING/CLOSE TO BART

3 BR 2 BA Approx. 1100 Sq. Ft. Converted garage w/pine floors, hardwood floors, RV parking, well maintained. #02008201 Bay Area Realty 510-273-9175

NEW LISTING/GREAT QUALITY THROUGHOUT

3BR, 2BA over 2000 Sq. Ft. 1 car att. garage w/interior access. Hardwood floors, family room, lovely yard w/deck. #0200413 Lynette Ng 510-662-8497



GORGEOUS CUSTOM MIRA VISTA CONTEMPORARY

\$519,000
5815 Charles Ave. (Open Sun 2-4) 3BR w/Master Suite, 2 full baths and 1/2 bath. Spacious living rm w/fireplace, formal dining room, handsome den w/built-ins, large sunny kitchen & breakfast rm w/corner ceilings, new paint in & out, new Berber carpet, private yard w/pool views, 2 car attached garage, approx. 2176 sq. ft. of living space on 1 acre lot. www.carladellazoppa.com 510-662-8558



NEW LISTING/CHARM & STYLE IN MIRA VISTA

5413 Hillside Ave. (Open Sun, 2-4) 3+ BR 1.5 BA Approx. 2 Car att. garage, Quiet Street, traditional home in wonderful neighborhood, great fenced yard w/deck & hot-tub, gleaming flrs., Formal dining rm., move-in condition. #02006767 www.carladellazoppa.com 510-662-8558

RICHMOND VIEW

LOOKS & FEELS LIKE NEW/WHAT A PRICE!
2 BR 1 BA Over 1000 Sq. Ft. w/additional 16x19 Fam. Rm. w/wood redone inside & out. Delightful family rm. w/wood burning stove, central heat, #0202465 Margrith Byer 510-235-0243

SUPER AREA/COMING SOON!

3 BR 2 BA Sunny home with charm & paine! (2 pine) w/wood in yard. In-law potential downstairs, 1 car att. garage, fireplace, heat, dining area, deck. #02006387 www.cynthiaburke.com 510-662-8528

Visit our website - http://www.spre.com

PIEDMONT - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



100 HAZEL LANE

A wonderful mid-century home in private secluded setting. Remodeled kitchen complete w/family room - level out to gardens. 3BR incl. master. Anian Pettit Tunney

\$975,000



22 WILDWOOD AVENUE

This lovely Prairie-style home has all the room you'll need - 4BR/2.5BA living room, formal dining room, cozy den and eat-in kitchen. Mavis Delacroix

\$689,000



801 OAKLAND AVENUE

A delightful home w/3BR/1BA, spacious eat-in kitchen, formal dining room, beautiful garden. Great location, close to school & shops. Sheila Gallagher

\$599,000

OAKLAND - OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



6013 SKYLINE BLVD.

Live in a work of art. Stunning new home by David Stark Wilson. Sited for maximum privacy w/sweeping Bay views. Exceptional architecture & exquisite finishes. Erika Celestre

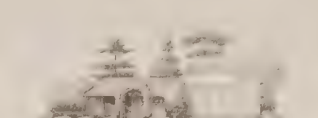
\$2,300,000



428 BELLEVUE AVENUE

Circa 1910 Shingle beauty w/original architectural details & built-ins. Beamed ceilings, leaded windows, fixtures and sconces. 4+BR/2+BA. Elizabeth Dickson

\$625,000



6315 ASCOT DRIVE

Charming home, updated throughout w/Bay view from most rooms, 2BR/2BA, new kitchen, home office, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck & garage. Steve Michaelides

\$499,000



5556 BACON ROAD

Newer construction on over 1.4 acres. 5+BR/3.5BA. Large kitchen w/adjacent family room w/fireplace and access to decks. Spacious master suite. Kurt Buchholz

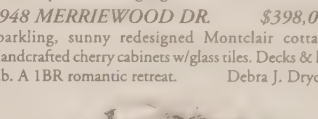
\$1,049,000



5965 KEITH AVENUE

Fabulous Rockridge 3BR w/nursery or office, rich in architectural details. Formal living & dining rooms, mahogany floors, French doors, two fireplaces. Debbi DiMaggio

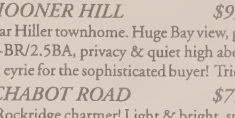
\$599,000



6315 ASCOT DRIVE

Charming home, updated throughout w/Bay view from most rooms, 2BR/2BA, new kitchen, home office, hardwood floors, fireplace, deck & garage. Steve Michaelides

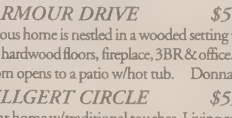
\$499,000



16 SCHOONER HILL

Spectacular Hiller townhome. Huge Bay view, gorgeous details. 2+BR/2.5BA, privacy & quiet high above it all. An eagles' eyrie for the sophisticated buyer! Tricia Swift

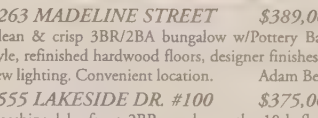
\$950,000



6856 ARMOUR DRIVE

This spacious home is nestled in a wooded setting w/filtered Bay views, hardwood floors, fireplace, 3BR & office. Kitchen/family room opens to a patio w/hot tub. Donna DeBardi

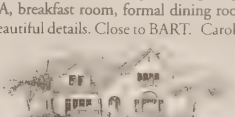
\$565,000



3263 MADELINE STREET

Clean & crisp 3BR/2BA bungalow w/Pottery Barn style, refinished hardwood floors, designer finishes & new lighting. Convenient location. Adam Betta

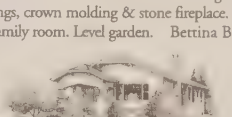
\$389,000



6226 CHABOT ROAD

Heart of Rockridge charmer! Light & bright, split level. 3+BR/2BA, breakfast room, formal dining room, built ins and beautiful details. Close to BART. Carolyn Jones

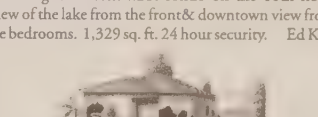
\$775,000



725 HILLGERT CIRCLE

Spectacular home w/traditional touches. Living room with high ceilings, crown molding & stone fireplace. Updated kitchen/family room. Level garden. Bettina Balestrieri

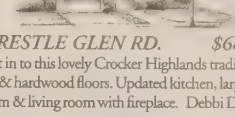
\$559,000



1555 LAKESIDE DR. #100

Smashing lake front 2BR condo on the 10th floor. View of the lake from the front & downtown view from the bedrooms. 1,329 sq. ft. 24 hour security. Ed Kuo

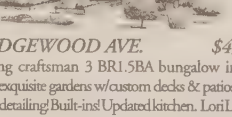
\$375,000



1706 TRESTLE GLEN RD.

Move right in to this lovely Crocker Highlands traditional w/3BR/2BA & hardwood floors. Updated kitchen, large formal dining room & living room with fireplace. Debbi DiMaggio

\$689,000



4630 EDGEWOOD AVE.

Captivating craftsman 3 BR/1.5BA bungalow in private retreat of exquisite gardens w/custom decks & patio. Vintage gumwood detailing! Built-ins! Updated kitchen. Lori Lombardo

\$499,500



2539 RAMPART STREET

This charming Lincoln Heights bungalow includes 2BR/1 remodeled BA & sparkling hardwood floors. Expansive level garden & detached garage. Cherie Curliano

\$359,000

BERKELEY

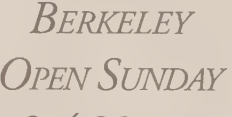
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.



2944 AVALON AVENUE

Grand Claremont Court classic! 5+BR/4.5BA, large family room, den, sun room, updated kitchen, au-pair quarters. Close to shops and BART. Bebe McRae

\$1,900,000



1176 STERLING AVENUE

Bay view! Secluded gardens. Stylishly renovated home w/ elegant southwestern colors & indoor-outdoor ambiance! Remodeled kitchen! 2 BR+ Au-pair. Nacio Brown

\$585,000



2200 MARIN AVENUE

Graciously proportioned rooms! High ceilings! Remodeled kitchen. French doors from dining room to garden. Some Bay & bridge views. 3 BR/2.5BA. Chris Cohn

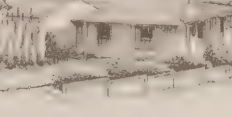
\$579,500



111 ALVARADO ROAD

Wonderful 3+BR/3BA brown shingle. Large living room w/stone fireplace. Dining room w/built-ins. Updated kitchen. Beautiful architectural detail. Karen Starr

\$950,000



1518 BLAKE STREET

This sweet 2BR/1BA Berkeley bungalow features an updated kitchen that opens to a deck and lovely garden. Linda Wolan

\$419,000



1518 BLAKE STREET

This sweet 2BR/1BA Berkeley bungalow features an updated kitchen that opens to a deck and lovely garden. Linda Wolan

\$419,000

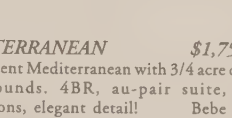
BERKELEY - BY APPOINTMENT



THOUSAND OAKS

A fabulous executive retreat in prestigious Thousand Oaks! Carr Jones designed home on a private double lot. Bebe McRae

\$1,850,000



CLAREMONT

One level living in prime Claremont neighborhood! 3BR/3BA, formal dining, private garden, 2-car garage/studio. Close to BART & shops. Bebe McRae

\$795,000

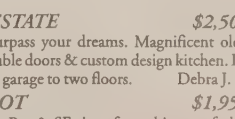


BERKELEY CONTEMPORARY

3BD/3 BA 2-story, side by side townhouse style condo. New kitchen & baths. Fenced yard. Close to freeway access & 4th St. shops. Lori Lombardo

\$429,000

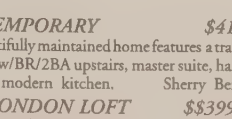
OAKLAND - BY APPOINTMENT



VIEW ESTATE

Built to surpass your dreams. Magnificent old world arched double doors & custom design kitchen. Elevator from 3-car garage to two floors. Debra J. Dryden

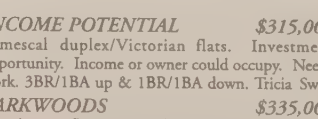
\$2,500,000



CONTEMPORARY

This beautifully maintained home features a traditional floorplan w/BR/2BA upstairs, master suite, hardwood floors & modern kitchen. Sherry Benninger

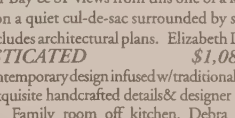
\$419,000



INCOME POTENTIAL

Temescal duplex/Victorian flats. Investment opportunity. Income or owner could occupy. Needs work. 3BR/1BA up & 1BR/1BA down. Tricia Swift

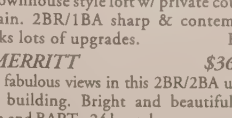
\$315,000



VIEW LOT

Spectacular Bay & SF views from this one of a kind lot. Level site on a quiet cul-de-sac surrounded by spacious homes. Includes architectural plans. Elizabeth Dickson

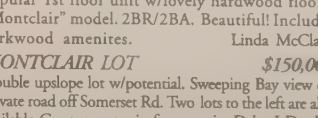
\$1,950,000



JACK LONDON LOFT

Unique townhouse style loft w/ private courtyard & fountain. 2BR/1BA sharp & contemporary good looks lots of upgrades. Ed Kuo

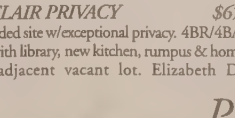
\$399,500



PARKWOODS

Popular 1st floor unit w/lovely hardwood floors. "Montclair" model. 2BR/2BA. Beautiful! Includes Parkwood amenities. Linda McClain

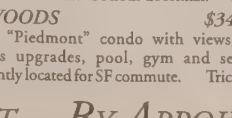
\$335,000



MONTCLAIR PRIVACY

Lovely wooded site w/exceptional privacy. 4BR/4BA. Open floor plan with library, new kitchen, rumpus & home office. Includes adjacent vacant lot. Elizabeth Dickson

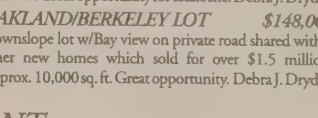
\$1,080,000



LAKE MERRITT

Enjoy the fabulous views in this 2BR/2BA unit in a lakefront building. Bright and beautiful. Near downtown and BART. 24 hour doorman. Ed Kuo

\$365,000



OAKLAND/BERKELEY LOT

Downslope lot w/Bay view on private road shared with 2 other new homes which sold for over \$1.5 million. Approx. 10,000 sq. ft. Great opportunity. Debra J. Dryden

\$150,000

PIEDMONT - BY APPOINTMENT



PIEDMONT MANSION

Stately Regency Revival mansion. 5BR/4.5BA, expansive modern kitchen, maple paneled family room, large terraces on 2 levels w/sweeping Bay views. Nancy Lehrkind

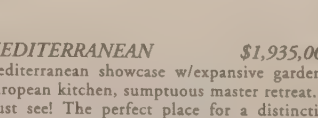
\$2,950,000



PIEDMONT ELEGANCE

Contemporary chic with a relaxed elegant environment are present in this spacious home! The gorgeous gardens embrace the poolside setting. Angela Wei Grubb

\$2,707,500



MEDITERRANEAN

Mediterranean showcase w/expansive gardens, European kitchen, sumptuous master retreat. A must see! The perfect place for a distinctive lifestyle of comfort & harmony. Sandra Vogl

\$1,935,000

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FROM PAGE B4

Paul Roberts is the presenter of "A Passion for Pattiani", an exploration of the work of Alameda builder Alfred Washington Pattiani, an early designer of Queen-Anne style houses. The projector slide show will demonstrate Pattiani's life and work. Call 510-748-0796 for information.

Handy Classes

The Building Education Center in Berkeley provides ongoing classes, lectures and events for the experienced and those new to remodeling and renovation. There are evening classes on weekdays and daytime classes on the weekends. For information on classes and costs call the center. Contact Sydney at 510-525-7610 or visit the website at bldgeduc.org.

Real Estate Careers

Have you ever wondered about a career in real estate? Want to know what it takes? What type of schooling is involved? How do I prepare for the exam? The answers to your questions are available through the Noble Fields School of Real Estate. For more information call the Oakland office at 510-451-7977 or the main office, in San Francisco at 415-956-6169.

ARPB info

The Associated Real Property Brokers (ARPB) holds a networking breakfast on the third Wednesday of every month. This month's breakfast is from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 20. The Oak Tree Grille on Embarcadero in Oakland is the location. Realists are encouraged to bring flyers and market their properties. The meeting is open forum. For more information call Tyrone Cossey of Fidelity Na-

tional Title at 510-893-8100.

There's still time. The new Realist Membership Directories will be released in May. The directory is an networking tool and can be used in listing presentations. Display advertising is offered in the directory. For advertising rates and information contact Georgia Richardson of Richardson Real Estate at 510-569-3499.

BAR updates

The Berkeley Association of Realtors announces a visit from the California Association of Realtors President Robert Bailey to Region 6 (Alameda County). A luncheon is planned at the Claremont Resort Hotel in Berkeley from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, March 27. Call Don Clark of the BAR office at 510-848-2439.

Tech Faire 2002 is coming. The technology fair is co-sponsored by BAR. Mark your calendars for May 1 to 3. In the planning stages are seminars and a free trade show. Watch this column for more details.

OAR education

The Oakland Association of Realtors invites you hear Ron Useldinger on "How To Achieve Excellence & Peak Performance In Real Estate". The program is from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Friday, March 15. Be inspired to a higher level of personal excellence. There is no cost.

Earn an Accredited Buyer Representative Basic Designation. OAR is offering the ABR Designation course from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday and Friday, April 4 and 5. Among course topics covered are Agency, marketing and risk management. Tuition includes first year REBAC dues and 12 credit hours.

Time to renew! Earn all 45 hours continuing education in only one-

half day. The seminar is from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., Friday, May 17, at the OAR Building, on Webster Street in Oakland. Topics include Ethics, Agency, Fair Housing and Trust Funds, with legal and marketing updates. Tuition includes home study materials.

Tuition and attendance information for all OAR educational programs should be addressed to Mary Williams of the OAR office at 510-836-3000.

NEW goal for task force

Last year the Oakland Association of Realtors established a fundraising task force to raise monies for the Oral Lee Brown Foundation. The foundation helps Realtor Oral Lee Brown keep her promise to a class of Oakland school children, to put them through college. The task force reached last year's goal of \$18,000. The funds were presented at the annual OAR Inaugural. For the year 2002, the OAR task force set its goal at \$20,002. These funds will help Brown with her renewed commitment to three additional classes.

Realtor and task force Chairperson, Lois Harris of Prudential California Realty encourages everyone to participate in this worthy endeavor. Contact Harris at 510-834-2010.

Good neighbor awards

Realtor magazine is seeking nominations for its third annual Good Neighbor Awards. The program recognizes realtors whose commitment to community service has helped make their community a better place. Five winners will be announced in the magazine and honored at the 2002 Realtors Conference & Expo in New Orleans. Award entries must be received by May 1. For more details call 800-874-6500.

RHANAC meeting

The Rental Housing Association of Northern Alameda County (RHANAC) offers a membership meeting monthly. Non-members are also invited to attend. The next meeting is at 6:45 p.m., Thursday, March 21. The meeting is held at the Greek Orthodox Church, on Lin-

coln Avenue, in Oakland. Topics for the evening will be lead remediation, Oakland's new rent ordinance and insurance coverage. For information and registration call the RHANAC office at 510-893-9873.

RHANAC presents "Learn How in 2002", an educational series on a variety of issues affecting rental housing. On March 23 there is a three hour class on mold. This course gives an overview of mold and air quality issues. Learn how to investigate and remediate these problems. Classes are held at the Oakland Association of Realtors, on Webster in Oakland. You must pre-register. Contact RHA at 510-893-9873 or via email at RHANAC@pacbell.net.

WCR Day at the Races

The Women's Council of Realtors East Bay Chapter is co-sponsoring their annual "Day At The Races". The event is planned for Wednesday, March 20 at the Golden Gate Fields Turf Club. The cost is \$30 per person and includes a buffet beginning at noon. Post Time for the first race is 12:45 p.m.

with the last race at 4:45 p.m. in conjunction with the California and Contra Costa County Reservations are a must. Lee Jacobson of Pacific Realty at 510-339-6460 x 309.

Internet portal

Realtors are encouraged to use the new internet portal, gateway law of the Association of Realtors to put the power of the internet to work for realtors. It is the premier real estate community. Advanced tools and services allow for interaction throughout the industry. Combines into one portal a number of existing sites.

Attention mortgage professionals

CAMB Dinner And Show "Trust and Title" is the theme. See REID Page B6.

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March 17th 2-4 p.m.



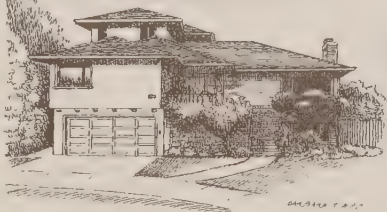
Albany - \$475,000
1020 Stannage Avenue

Large beautifully remodeled home! 4 Bedrooms/2+ Baths, Master Suite with fireplace & fabulous Jacuzzi tub, fireplace in living room, vaulted ceilings, gourmet kitchen with granite counters, 3 bonus rooms downstairs, 1 car attached garage.



Diane Sindel-Deutsche
Broker, Owner
Phone: 510-524-8508
DianeSDeutsche@aol.com

OPEN SUNDAY 1-4



3315 Victor Avenue • Oakland

Gorgeous charmer in Redwood Heights. Spacious and bright with lots of charm, and many new upgrades. 5BD/3.5BA w/approx. 3,400 sq. ft. A pleasure to see!

\$639,000

Sovanna Yorn
(510) 433-7199



The GRUBB Co. REALTORS



3263 Madeline Street, Laurel

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Clean and crisp three bedroom, two bath bungalow with freshly painted with designer colors throughout. Move right in to this charming home with elegant hardwood floors, new carpet, gorgeous finishes and fixtures.

Offered at \$389,000

ADAM BETTA

OFFICE: 510.339.0400/251
GRUBBCO.COM

Northbrae



Coveted Northbrae Neighborhood...

This graceful Mediterranean home features a unique floorplan and is located in a wonderful North Berkeley neighborhood. 3 BD, 1 BA and a partially finished plus room offer plenty of space. The split-level design places one of the bedrooms upstairs for a welcomed sense of privacy. There is a wonderful interplay between the living room and formal dining room facilitated by arched doorways and a classic fireplace. Other features include nicely redone hardwood floors, a detached garage, level backyard and new windows.

Offered at \$579,000

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS!

NORTHBRAE PROPERTIES • 526-4336
1600 Hopkins St., Berkeley 94707

Open Sunday, March 17, 2 - 4:30 p.m.

NEW LISTING

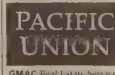
6333 Fairlane Drive, Oakland



Located on just over an acre in Montclair, this spacious home offers panoramic bay views. The family room and master suite open to a private patio for outdoor dining or relaxing. 4 bedrooms, two and one half baths.

Offered at \$849,000

Nancy Moore
Senior Sales Associate
510/338-1302



NEW LISTING



Open Sunday, March 17, 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

1010 MOUNTAIN BLVD., OAKLAND

This 4 year old traditional near Montclair Village radiates charm and pride of ownership. Its floor plan is ideal for daily enjoyment or formal entertaining. The family room and living room open to a level garden. 4 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths.

Offered at \$849,000

Nancy Moore
Senior Sales Associate
510/338-1302



2150 Sand Dollar Dr, Marina Bay, Richmond Open



Awesome 3 bed/3 bath townhome just steps from Marina Bay Trails and the Park. This Tiburon model is the largest in Bayfront. It won't last long! See it right now @ www.MichaelList.com

Michael Studebaker, Realtor
Callagher & Lindsey, Inc (877)865-2279

BRIGHT AND SUNNY COTTAGE



5341 Normandie, Oakland

Located on a block long street in Oakland's popular Maxwell Park, this painted cottage is ready for you. There is plenty of room to entertain in the large yard. The new owners will have a new roof, new furnace, and new hot water tank. An easy walk to Sherman Elementary School and public transportation.

- * Two bedrooms
- * One bathroom with built-in cabinet
- * Separate dining room with built-ins
- * Living room with fireplace
- * Cheerful kitchen
- * Detached garage
- * 1080 square feet
- * Built in 1923

Offered at \$278,000

Virtual tour at www.Pruweb.com/NancyTaussig
For more information, Please call:

Nancy Taussig
510-986-9563 (voice mail)
510-845-0211 (office)

The GRUBB Co. REALTORS



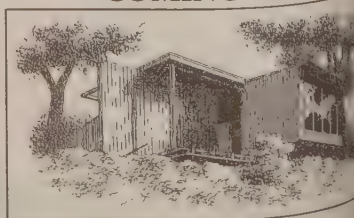
4630 Edgewood Avenue, Oakland

Open Sunday 2-4:30. Captivating California bungalow in private retreat of exquisite garden, custom decks & patios. Vintage gum-wood floors. Built-ins! Redone eat-in kitchen. Great workshop space. Garage. 3 BR/1.5 BA.

Offered at \$499,500

LORI LOMBARDO
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/316
Residence: 510.339.1154
GRUBBCO.COM

COMING SOON



MONTCLAIR

Two + bedrooms and two baths. Parklike setting close to

For more information, please call

Nancy Hinkley
Realtor

Office: (510) 428-0900
Voice Mail: (510) 433-2841
Prudential
California Realty
342 Highland Ave. Piedmont

GRUBB Co. *Coming Soon*



209 Crocker Avenue, Piedmont
Offered at \$2,750,000

ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY, CRS
BROKER ASSOCIATE
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/217
GRUBBCO.COM

HOPE BRODERICK Realtor *Open Sunday*




2217 San Antonio
Alameda Victorian Jewel
Amazing Vintage Details
Walk to beach and shops
Perfect retreat for San Francisco commuters
3+BD/1+BA Garden and patios **\$575,000**



Prudential
California Realty
510.869.4218

Open Sunday, March 17, 2-5pm
OWN YOUR OWN PARK!



13470 Campus Drive, Oakland
Located in the popular Ridgmont neighborhood, this wonderful contemporary home is set on over 3 acres of oak-studded land with sweeping views of the hills and canyon. With approximately 4,500 sq. ft. of living space, the 4BR/3.5BA, den/library, family room, rec room and gourmet kitchen all share beautiful views. Peaceful and private, this home is truly special!
\$1,450,000

Vicki Woodhead
Senior Sales Consultant • (510) 338-1334

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate Services

The GRUBB Co.



5556 Bacon Road, Oakland
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This newer Hillcrest Estates home is set on 1.4 acres and features 5+bedrooms/3.5 baths plus Bay and canyon views.
Offered at \$1,049,000



KURT BUCHHOLZ
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/221
Residence: 531.1091

GRUBBCO.COM

COLDWELL BANKER
PREMIERS
Internationally

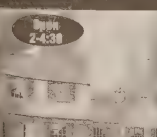
Open 2-4:30



EST ESTATES
1991 Contemporary!
Natural light, created with a mind-blowing pool and waterfall & spa. Open

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Open 2-4:30



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COLDWELL BANKER

Open 2-4:30



2102 6TH ST., BERKELEY
\$369,000
1st OPEN Split personality-live/work condo. Terrific design in great location. Ideal for small business, art work, photography. Open Sunday
Diane Verducci 510.486.1495

First Open 2-5



6660 PINE NEEDLE DRIVE
\$569,000
3BR/2+BA, new paint & carpets, open floorplan with decks, fireplace & beamed ceilings. fantastic canyon wooded views. Open Sunday
Jeffrey Neideman 510.339.4700

Open 1-5



514-516 VALLE VISTA **\$575,000**
Stunning duplex. Main house 3+BR/1.5BA w/updated kitchen & formal dining room, gleaming hardwood floor, & large, level yard. Second unit 1 BR/1 BA. Open Sunday
Nader Davari 510.339.4700

Open 2-5



3030 DELAWARE ST., OAKLAND
\$285,000
Cute 3BR/1BA Craftsman. Sunny & bright w/ hardwood floors, large rear yard. Close to Mills College 35th MacArthur & Food Mill. Open Sunday. Ext 3034
510.486.1495

514-516 VALLE VISTA \$575,000
Stunning duplex. Main house 3+BR/1.5BA w/updated kitchen & formal dining room, gleaming hardwood floor, & large, level yard. Second unit 1 BR/1 BA. Open Sunday
Nader Davari 510.339.4700

FIRST OPEN

5 CLIPPER HILL **\$869,000**
Sunday 1-4, 3BR/4 BA Hiller Highland home. Spacious & light, elegant custom details, home office, panoramic view. Beautiful!
Carolyn Devol 510.339.4700

5842 MENDOCINO AVE., UPPER ROCKRIDGE **\$629,000**
Sunday 2-5. Entertaining in style! This gem has been newly updated with a fabulous eat-in kitchen, which opens to a garden deck with a S.F. view. 2BR/1BA
Michael Thompson 510.339.4700

4854 TRINIDAD AVE., JOAQUIN MILLER **\$579,000**
Sunday 2-5. New List! Rare Find! Unique 1961 Contemporary on large lot. Great indoor/outdoor spaces. Bay view! Private feel! Soaring ceilings, 3BR/2BA.
Ruby Ng 510.339.4700

4172 WILSHIRE BLVD., LINCOLN HEIGHTS **\$499,000**
Sunday 2-5. Stunning City/Bay views & level yard! Lots of light & space in this one-owner, meticulously cared for home. 2+BR/2BA, formal dining, 2-car garage.
Rachel Bailer 510.339.4700

4127 LAUREL **\$438,000**
Sunday 1-5. Charming Laurel District Bungalow w/Bay view. 2BR, 1BA & plus room. pretty yard, updated kitchen.
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700

OPEN SUNDAY

2805 ELLSWORTH ST., BERKELEY **\$989,000**
Sun. 1-4, 11BR/4+BA, central location, owner occupied with 12 rooms rented; many improvements, nice neighborhood.
Jeffrey Neideman 510.339.4700

4100 MALCOLM, CHABOT HIGHLANDS **\$499,000**
Sun. 2-4:30. Jewel on hilltop. 2BR/2BA plus home office, new kitchen & baths, upgraded systems, Bay view & secluded yard.
Donna Conroy 510.339.4700

7901 GREENLY DR., OAKLAND HILLS **\$365,000**
Sun. 1-4, 2BR/1BA, duplex, room w/bar, workshop, great storage, level, tiered yard, excellent condition.
Jon Dunn 510.339.4700

1535 PRINCE ST., BERKELEY **\$359,000**
Sun. 1-4, Cute Victorian-style duplex, each unit 2+BR/1BA, spacious garage, deck, & fabulous garden. Don't miss this one.
Jillian Strawn 510.339.4700

BY APPOINTMENT

EMERYVILLE **\$289,000**
Wonderful 2BR/1BA home close to Berkeley. Hardwood floors, great finished basement. Big rear yard.
Ext 3034 510.486.1495

BERKELEY **\$699,000**
Mediterranean charmer in No. Berkeley hills. Great views, good floorplan. 3 BR/2 BA, remod. kitchen/family & remod. tiled baths.
Cheryl Cahn 510.486.1495

MONTCLAIR **\$985,000**
Spacious & elegant! 3BR/2 BA breathtaking home conveniently located close to freeway & Montclair shops.
Terry Kukla 510.339.4700

GRAND AVENUE 4-PLEX **\$725,000**
Bright & sunny 3BR/2BA owner's unit. Very clean & easy to maintain building. Easy walk to SF trans., Lake area, Peace Garden & Grand Ave. Shops.
Jack Zimmerman 510.339.4700

MONTCLAIR 4BR/3BA **\$675,000**
Tongue-in-groove beamed ceilings in living/dining rooms. 2 fireplaces, random plank & hardwood floors, 2-car garage.
Nancy Dickey, CRS/Becky Andersen 510.339.4700

BERKELEY **\$699,000**
Wonderful Queen Anne on tree-lined street w/vu of the Bay & Mt. Tam. Three large units; owner's unit remodeled, new foundation & roof, large backyard.
Victor Fierro 510.339.4700

LOTS

7089 ELVERTON **\$299,000**
Vacant land with design review approved plans, views of San Francisco and its bridges
David Eckert 510.339.4700

0 SKYLINE **\$95,000**
Downslope. Soil report & survey.
Jon Dunn 510.339.4700

BUYER NEEDS

Preferably in Berkeley Hills & Thousand Oaks area. 4BR/2BA home up to \$1,200,000. Please call Kim & Barbara Marienthal, 510-981-3036.

Light-filled contemporary in Berkeley. 3BR/2BA plus garden. Up to \$1,000,000. Please call Nadine Dei, 510-981-3033.

Berkeley/Oakland Hills. 3BR/2BA traditional up to \$999,999. Please call Alice Wong-Roth, 510-981-3032.

Gourmet Ghetto of Berkeley. Single family, 3+BR/1+BA, garden, 4 kids, up to \$800,000. Please call Maura Allen, 510-981-3034.

Elmwood/LeConte School. 3+BR/2BA, sunny yard, fixer o.k. Up to \$700,000. Please call Sarah Shankman, 510-981-3011.

Rockridge or No. Berkeley. 2BR or more, craftsman or classic bungalow up to \$500,000. Please call Bobbie Giarratana, 510-981-3031.

Berkeley hills or Kensington, minimum 2500 sq. ft., lots of light, 3 BR/2 BA or more, \$800,000 - \$1,100,000. Please call Maura Allen 510.981.3034.

6137 LaSalle Avenue Oakland 510.339.4700

1495 Shattuck Avenue Berkeley 510.486.1495

COLDWELL BANKER
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

1-888-281-9197

1-888-281-9197

Weekend OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.contracosta.com

ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3231 Briggs Ave Victor J. Property Investment 3c's 510-523-1115	Triplex Sun 2-4:30	\$1,550,000	
821 Paro St Open Sunday Nancy Gordon 510-814-4515 Harbor Bay Realty	580/2.5BA	2-4	\$879,000
1338 Bay St Open Sun, Main Island David Gutierrez 510-814-2024, Kane & Associates	380	2-4	\$895,000
2557 Sea View Pkwy Open Sun, Harbor Bay Isle Jerry Nussbaum 510-522-0968, Kane & Associates	480	2-4	\$912,000
1251 Sherman St Open Sunday Dorrie Brady 510-523-8696, BaySide Real Estate	3bd	2-4:30	\$785,000
3233-3235 Farnside Blvd Wells & Bennett Realtors/Stan Hammond 510-531-7000/246	DUPLEX 2-4:30	\$750,000	
8 Evans Ct Open Sat & Sun Dana Gutierrez 510-814-4854; Ringu Liu 510-814-4848 Harbor Bay Realty	480/2BA	2-4	\$729,000
110 Nell Bay Jean Powers 510-814-4022 Harbor Bay Realty	3 - BD	2.5BA	Sun 2-4
2217 San Antonio Open Sat & Sun 2-4:30 Ginger Schuler 510-814-4872 Harbor Bay Realty	3 - 1/2 - Sun 2-4:30	\$575,000	
1915 Cornell Dr. Open Sunday Ginger Schuler 510-814-4872 Harbor Bay Realty	3 - BD/1BA	2-4	\$559,000
6 Birt Court 4 tr new km, Fam rm, w/ fric, High Ceiling Pacific Union Ivan Liang (415) 610-1771	2 - bdt, Sun 2-4	\$556,000	
1577 Court Street Open Sunday Greg Fujita 510-522-6222 Harbor Bay Realty	380/2BA	2-4	\$548,000
1725 Ohio Drive Hope Bonifacio, Ritz Real Estate 510-523-8555	380/2BA	2-4	\$545,000
1637 Taylor Open Sunday George Muth 510-814-4891 Harbor Bay Realty	380/2.5BA	2-4:30	\$499,000
1908 Schiller Open Sat & Sun Francesca Thom, Burnell House Properties 931-626-6776	380/1BA	1-6	\$485,000
1711 Pearl St Open Sunday Prudential, Esica Edwards 510-763-7718	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$485,000
7 Damon Ct Open Sunday Fred Christensen 510-814-4811 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2.5BA	2-4	\$429,000
10 Christensen Ct Open Sat & Sun Dana Williams 510-814-4825 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2.5BA	2-4	\$429,000
3005 Triunfo Dr Open Sun, Main Island Wendy Sando 510-531-2274, Kane & Associates	280	2-4	\$425,000
2660 Jackson Open Saturday Russ & Linda Grant 510-814-4713 Harbor Bay Realty	2 - BD/1BA	2-4	\$415,000
1828 Elm St Open SATURDAY Gallagher & Lindsey, Bill Bissett 510-748-1108	2bd/1ba	2-4	\$415,000
2705-07 Farnside Blvd Open Saturday Dorrie Brady 510-814-4871 Harbor Bay Realty	2 units	2-4	\$401,000
3215 Monte Vista Open Sunday Gallagher & Lindsey, Dale Reno 510-748-1142	280/1BA	2-4	\$389,500
1612 Wood St Open Saturday/Sunday Gallagher & Lindsey, Ron Gang 510-505-9551	2 - bdt/1ba	2-4	\$385,000

ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1012 Verdeman Open Sat & Sun, Harbor Bay Isle Kathy Rado 510-855-7238; Lena Sazo 510-748-0780, Kane & Associates	380	2-4	\$369,000
1458 6th St Open Sunday Russ & Linda Grant 510-814-4713 Harbor Bay Realty	280/1BA	2-4	\$349,000
1458 6th St Open Sunday Russ & Linda Grant 510-814-4713 Harbor Bay Realty	280/1BA	2-4	\$348,000
1853 Wood St OPEN SUNDAY RED OAK	280/1BA	2-4:30	\$323,000
339 Broadway #101 Open Sunday Gallagher & Lindsey, Bill Bissett 510-748-1108	2bd/1ba	2-4	\$275,000
2000 Central Ave #G Open Sat/Sun 2-4 Gallagher & Lindsey, Bill Bissett 510-748-1108	2bd/1ba	2-4	\$269,500
1305 Webster St Prudential Bette Barr 510-503-2823 Alameda Realty	280/1BA	\$245,000	Sun 2-4

ALBANY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
641 Talbot OPEN SUNDAY Vanessa Thim Smith Asst 2 Sell	5bd/4ba	2-4	\$570,000
1020 Stannage Ave Diene Sindel-Deutsche, Joane Realty	4bd/2 - Sun 2-4	\$475,000	
507 Curtis St Aza & Pascal Forest, Prudential, 510-845-0200	2 - 1/2ba Sun 2-4	\$430,000	

BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2944 Avalon Ave The Grubb Co. Bobo McRae (510) 339-0400	580/4+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$1,900,000	
2805 Ellsworth OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Jeffrey Neikman (510) 339-4700	1180/4 - BA	1-4	\$989,000
111 Alvarado Rd The Grubb Co. Karen Starr (510) 339-0400	3 - BD/3BA Sun 2-4:30	\$950,000	
454 Vassar Ave Pacific Union Anna Van Dyke (510) 338-1339	480/4BA	Sun 2-4	\$750,000
665 The Alameda RED OAK 510-280-2141	3bd/2ba	2-4	\$695,000
2300 Vine St Thermal Properties 510-848-1950, 240 Colleen Larkin	1bd/1ba Sun 2-5	\$650,000	
1176 Sterling Ave The Grubb Co. Chris Cohn (510) 339-0400	280/2BA Sun 2-4:30	\$585,000	
2200 Marin Ave The Grubb Co. Chris Cohn (510) 339-0400	380/2+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$579,500	
3025 Harper St Dana Eng, Prudential-Montclair, 510-339-9290	280/2BA Sun 2-4:30	\$475,000	
1711 Marin Ave Carol T. Jackson, 510-773-9322	2bd/1ba Sun 2-4:30	\$445,000	
1518 Blake St The Grubb Co. Linda Wolan (510) 339-0400	280/1BA Sun 2-4:30	\$419,000	
1519 Oxford #J Barbara Conheim, Berkeley Hills Realty, 510-524-8688 x20	2bd/1.5ba Sun 2-4	\$385,000	
1833 Parker St Janet Kaplan, Prudential, 510-845-0200	280/2BA Sun 2-4:30	\$385,000	

BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2228 Cedar St Thermal Properties 510-848-1950, 240 Colleen Larkin	2bd/1ba Sun 2-4	\$365,500	
1535 Prince St Berkeley, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Jillian Strawn (510) 339-4700	2 - BD/1BA	1-4	\$358,000
2409 9th St Open Sunday Jennifer Medina, Keller Williams San Francisco Properties 415-377-7881	2 - BD/1BA	2-4:30	\$348,000
1326 Orway Thermal Properties 510-848-1950, 240 Colleen Larkin	1bd/1ba Sun 2-4:30	\$285,000	
1632 Curtis St Investco, Lynne Thiem 510-834-9033	380/1BA \$230,000	Sun 2-4	
2201 Virginia, #7 Conde, OPEN SUNDAY RED OAK 510-280-2103	180/1BA	2-4	\$229,000

EL CERRITO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
5411 Hillside Ave Security Pacific www.caroladiaz.com, Security Pacific, 510-862-4558	3 - 1/2 - Sun 2-4	\$515,000	
5815 Charles Ave OPEN SUNDAY Security Pacific 510-862-4558	3bd/2.5	2-4	\$518,000
5815 Charles Ave www.caroladiaz.com, Security Pacific, 510-862-4558	3bd/2.5	Sun 2-4	\$518,000
1840 Julian OPEN SUNDAY RED OAK	380/2 - BA	2-4	\$495,000
535 Elm St OPEN SUNDAY RED OAK 510-280-2178	280/1BA	2-4:30	\$369,000

EMERYVILLE

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3 Admiral-P27 OPEN SUNDAY Cheryl Bann, 510-339-8900, 217 C21 Heritage R.E.	180/1BA	2-4	\$219,000

KENSINGTON

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
44 Kingston Rd. OPEN SUNDAY RED OAK 510-280-2112	4 - BD/3BA	1-4	\$939,000
730 Wellesley Ave OPEN SUNDAY Millstein & Associates Shari Madden 510-524-3840	4bd/4ba	2-4	\$725,000
205 Princeton OPEN SUNDAY Millstein & Associate Estelle Kent 510-524-3840	3bd/2ba	2-4	\$595,000

MORAGA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3764 Via Granada Wells & Bennett Realtors/Carol Robbiano 510-531-7000/292	4 - BD/3BA	2-4:30	\$775,000

NEWARK

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6149 Joaquin Murietta, #H OPEN SUNDAY Better Homes A.D. Nassiri (510) 339-4000	380/2.5BA	2-4:30	\$350,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
6013 Skyline Blvd Oakland Hills The Grubb Co. Erika Calestra (510) 339-0400	480/3BA Sun 2-4:30	\$2,300,000	

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
13099 Skyline Blvd. Hillcrest Estates, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Karen Lum (510) 339-4700	580/4BA	2-4:30	\$1,975,000
614 Alvarado Rd Pacific Union Lewie Easterday (510) 338-1363	480/3BA	Sun 2-4	\$1,495,000
6191 Virgo Rd Montclair Francis Heath (510) 338-1357	480/3+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$1,475,000	
13470 Campus Dr Ridgmont Pacific Union Vicki Woodhead (510) 338-1334	480/3+BA Sun 2-4	\$1,450,000	
6165 Chabot Rd. Rockridge, OPEN SUNDAY Steven Bazzetti 510-339-8900, C21 Heritage R.E.	480/2BA	2-4:30	\$1,300,000
5561 Bacon Rd OPEN SUNDAY Sheila Sabino Prudential/CA Realty 510-326-5055	4bd/3.5ba	2-4:30	\$1,295,000
2101 Tunnel Rd Oakland Hills Pacific Union Deo Knowland (510) 338-1318	380/2+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$1,110,000	
5556 Bacon Rd The Grubb Co. Kurt Buchholz (510) 339-0400	580/3.5BA Sun 2-4:30	\$1,048,000	
16 Schooner Hill Hillcrest Estates The Grubb Co. Tricia Swift (510) 339-0400	2 - 2+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$950,000	
2666 Carlsbrook 4 - BD/2 - BA	2-4:30	\$949,000	
Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Dian Hymer (510) 339-4700	480/3+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$899,000	
7036 Broadway Terr Rockridge, OPEN SUNDAY Kathy Flynn (510) 338-1317	3 - 2+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$899,000	
6000 Grizzly Peak Blvd. Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY Better Homes Laural Strand 510-339-8400	3bd/3ba	2-4:30	\$880,000
5 Clippier Hill Hillcrest Estates, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Carolyn Devoil (510) 339-4700	380/2BA	2-4	\$868,000
6333 Fairlane Dr Pacific Union Larri Arzi (510) 338-1330	480/2+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$845,000	
1010 Mountain Blvd Pacific Union Nancy Moore (510) 338-1302	480/2+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$845,000	
6001 Avoca Ave. Better Homes Mahin Rajabi 510-339-8400	3bd/2.5ba	2-4:30	\$775,000
6228 Chabot Rd The Grubb Co. Carolyn Jones (510) 339-0400	3 - BD/2BA Sun 2-4:30	\$775,000	
498 Pershing Dr. Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY Mel Campbell, 510-339-8900, C21 Heritage R.E.	480/3.5BA	1-4:30	\$748,000
6620 Chelton Dr Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY Collette Ford Prudential 510-845-0211	3bd/2 - ba	2-4:30	\$729,000
1708 Treble Glen Rd Crocketer Highlands The Grubb Co. Debbi DiMaggio (510) 339-0400	380/2BA Sun 2-4:30	\$689,000	
3315 Victor Ave Sonoma Wine, Prudential, 510-433-7199	3bd/3.5	Sun 1-4	\$638,000
5842 Mendocino Open Sunday Colwell Banker Michael Thompson (510) 339-4700	2 - BD/1BA Open Upridge	2-4	\$629,000
428 Bellevue Ave Adams Point The Grubb Co. Elizabeth Dickson (510) 339-0400	4 + 1/2 + BA Sun 2-4:30	\$625,000	
4651 Edgewood Ave. Glenview, OPEN SUNDAY Better Homes Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400	3 - bdt/1ba	2-4:30	\$625,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
5820 Snake Road Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY Better Homes Nahid Nassiri 510-339-8400	4bd-4ba	2-4:30	\$625,000
1805 Northwood Ct Montclair Pacific Union Ann Nichols (510) 338-1319	380/2+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$610,000	
5965 Keith Ave The Grubb Co. Debbi DiMaggio (510) 339-0400	3 - BD/1BA Sun 2-4:30	\$599,000	
110 Glenwood Glade OPEN SUNDAY Better Homes Coco Rosalia (510) 339-4800	2 - BD/2BA	2-4:30	\$580,000
4854 Trinidad Oakland Hills, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Ruth Ng (510) 339-4700	280/2BA	2-4	\$579,000
516 Valle Vista Rose Garden, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Nader Davari (510) 339-4700	4 - BD/2 - BA	1-6	\$575,000
6660 Pine Needle Montclair, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Jeffrey Neikman (510) 339-4700	2 - BD/1BA	2-4	\$568,000
6856 Armour Dr Montclair The Grubb Co. Donna Debaroli (510) 339-0400	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$565,000
725 Hilltop Cir Oakland The Grubb Co. Betina Baleshteri (510) 339-0400	280/1+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$559,000	
5195 Parkridge Dr Piedmont, OPEN SUNDAY Pacific Union Sandi Klemmer (510) 338-1314	5 - 1/2 - Sun 2-4	\$550,000	
5607 Morphet Upper Rockridge, OPEN SUNDAY Prudential 510-845-0211	2bd/1ba	2-4	\$548,000
303 Newton Ave Open Sunday Gallagher & Lindsey, Koko McDonald 510-522-4449	4 units	1-6	\$548,000
3430 Davis St Michael or Derek, Prudential, 510-845-0200	3bd/2ba	Sun 2-4	\$518,000
639 Vermont St George Millones, Prudential-Montclair, 510-339-9290	5 - 1/2 - Sun 2-4	\$500,000	
4630 Edgewood Ave The Grubb Co. Lari Lombardo (510) 339-0400	380/1.5BA Sun 2-4:30	\$498,500	
39 Harbord Ct Upper Rockridge Pacific Union Ashley O'Neill (510) 338-1368	280/1+BA Sun 2-4:30	\$498,000	
6315 Ascot Dr The Grubb Co. Steve Michaelides (510) 339-0400	280/2BA Sun 2-4:30	\$498,000	
4180 Wilshire Lincoln Heights, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Rachel Bailor (510) 339-4700	2 - BD/2BA	2-4	\$498,000
4100 Malcolm Chabot Highlands, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Donna Correy (510) 339-4700	2 - BD/2BA	2-4:30	\$499,000
291 Athol Ave Open Sunday Gallagher & Lindsey, Koko McDonald 510-522-4449	3bd/1ba	1-6	\$489,000
5350 Bryant Ave Rockridge, OPEN SUNDAY Ron Kries Lawton Associates (510) 547-5970	280/1BA	Sun 1-5	\$475,000
5432 42nd St Joan Brumwick, Berkeley Hills Realty, 510-524-8688 x12	4bd/2ba	Sun 2-4	\$468,000
6432 Thornhill Dr Pacific Union Joanna Hirsch (510) 338-1368	380/3BA Sun 2-4:30	\$448,000	
3953 Hanley Rd Open Saturday/Sunday Gallagher & Lindsey, Ann Bracci 510-748-1807; Renate Kohlmann 510-748-1160	2bd/1ba	2-4	\$443,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
315-17 Colwood Ave, 180 Hillside Hillside Real Estate Inc 510-814-4871	3 - 1/2 - Sun 2-4:30	\$1,975,000	
3668 DuPont Ave, Open Sun RE-MAX 510-814-4871	3 - 1/2 - Sun 2-4:30	\$1,975,000	
190 Santa Clara Grand Lata, OPEN SUNDAY Better Homes 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
4127 Laurel Laurel, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
67 Turtle Creek Oakland Hills, Open Sun Richardson Real Estate Inc 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
30 Soreno Cir Oakland Hills, Open Sun Laurel, 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
449 - 59th St Oakland Hills, Open Sun RE-MAX 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
5948 Merriewood Dr The Grubb Co. Dorey Jones 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
3263 Madeline St Laurel The Grubb Co. Ann Tom 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
1222 - 7th Ave Oakland Hills, Open Sun First Star 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
2200 - 21st St Eric Shumway, Prudential, 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
5779 Ayala Open Sunday RE-MAX 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
1555 Lakeside Dr #1 Lake Merritt The Grubb Co. Ed Lee 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
407 Orange, #501 Adams Point, OPEN SUNDAY Colwell Banker Patty Butler 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
7901 Greenway Dr Oakland Hills, Open Sun Oakland Hills, Open Sun 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
540 Alhambra St North Oakland, OPEN SUNDAY Tom Neesh, 510-524-8688 x12	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
2539 Pleasant St Lincoln Heights The Grubb Co. Charles Taylor 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
1072-74 62nd St Karl Meyer, Prudential, 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
432 - 59th St OPEN SUNDAY Comrie Pyle Ann Lee 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
6517 Hillcrest Wells & Bennett Realtors 510-531-7000/292	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000
2408 24th East 2nd St Dexter, Prudential, 510-814-4871	380/2BA	2-4:30	\$959,000

Weekly OPEN HOMES

Open Sunday, unless otherwise indicated

www.curbrealty.com

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2801/18A	2-430	\$210,000	
Prudential		510-845-0211	
LOFT	2-430	\$290,000	
2801/18A	2-430	\$295,000	
Joe Ashton		(510) 338-4000	
2801/28A	2-430	\$295,000	
2801/18A	2-430	\$279,000	
510-280-2110			
2802/28A	2-430	\$278,500	
510-280-4290			
2801/18A	2-430	\$278,000	
Prudential		510-845-0211	
2801/18A	2-430	\$268,000	
510-740-1117			
2801/18A	2-430	\$250,000	
510) 338-8400			
2801/18A	2-430	\$249,000	
510) 338-4000			

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
407 Orange St #206	180/18A	2-430	\$185,000
Wells & Bennett		510-531-7000/238	
100 Hazel Ln	380/21/18A	2-430	\$975,000
The Grubb Co.		510) 338-0400	
22 Wildwood Ave	480/21/18A	2-430	\$980,000
The Grubb Co.		510) 338-0400	
301 Oakland Ave	380/18A	2-430	\$280,000
The Grubb Co.		510) 338-0400	

PIEDMONT

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
100 Hazel Ln	380/21/18A	2-430	\$975,000
The Grubb Co.		510) 338-0400	
22 Wildwood Ave	480/21/18A	2-430	\$980,000
The Grubb Co.		510) 338-0400	
301 Oakland Ave	380/18A	2-430	\$280,000
The Grubb Co.		510) 338-0400	

SAN FRANCISCO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
180 Valley View	480	2-4	\$680,000
Open Sunday			
Loan Sec 510-740-0225			
Joanna Lofica			510-523-0090, Kane & Associates

SAN LEANDRO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
224 Bellview	380/28A	2-4	\$340,000
OPEN SUNDAY			
RED OAK			510-280-2100
Julie			
14200 Seagula Dr	230/25BA	2-4	\$290,000
Open Sunday			
James Pappas			510-814-0840 Harbor Bay Realty
1400 Carpentier	280/28A	2-4	\$240,000
Open Sunday			
Toro Lee			510-814-0840 Harbor Bay Realty

SAN LORENZO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
15800 Via Granada	380/28A	2-4	\$360,000
Open Sunday			
Toro Lee			510-814-0840 Harbor Bay Realty
17252 Via Andata	2 - 80/18A	1-4	\$320,000
OPEN SUNDAY			
Better Homes			Mary Jane McConville (510) 338-8400

SAN PABLO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1104 Brookside Ave	280/18A	1-4	\$249,000
OPEN SUNDAY			
Joan Cass			925-875-4327 C21 Heritage R.E.

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April 7
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\$2,475,000

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Offered at \$579,500

1176 Sterling Avenue
Offered at \$585,000

CHRIS COHN
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/253
GRUBBCO.COM

Photos and additional information
available at
berkeley-properties.com

The GRUBB Co.

303 Pacific Avenue, Piedmont

COMING SOON. This turn of the century, formal Regency Revival mansion has been meticulously and elegantly renovated for both grand entertaining and gracious daily living. Formerly the prestigious Wallace School for Girls, the design of today embraces bright and sunny spaces throughout with sweeping bay views. Five bedrooms, four and one half baths, wood-paneled family room, spectacular modern kitchen and exquisite architectural detailing throughout.

Offered at \$2,950,000

NANCY LEHRKIND
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/246
lehrkind@grubbco.com

GRUBBCO.COM

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Open House Guide

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By Appointment

Exquisite Crocker Highlands Normandy

Truly spectacular, with unsurpassed craftsmanship and charm beyond belief, this romantic home offers the much sought after indoor/outdoor living with the living room, library and breakfast room opening to the most incredible private garden. 3BR/3BA upstairs, 2BR/1BA downstairs. Offered at \$1,200,000

Tori Carlisle
Senior Sales Consultant
(510) 338-1305

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GMAC Real Estate Services

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NEW LISTING!

1805 Northwood Court, Montclair
CONTEMPORARY WITH BAY VIEWS!

Clean, comfortable, 3BR/2.5BA contemporary with open floor plan, vaulted ceiling and beautiful Bay & San Francisco views. Move-in condition! New carpet, paint, and decks. Excellent cul-de-sac location near parks and hiking trails.

\$610,000

Open Sunday, March 17, 2:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Ann Nichols
Senior Sales Consultant . (510) 338-1319

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate Services

Open Sunday 2 to 5 pm

4854 Trinidad, Oakland
(back view of house)

New List! On approx. 1/4 ac, this architecturally pleasing 1961 Contemporary incorporates the indoor and outdoor spaces to create a feeling of privacy and serenity. Floor to ceiling windows strategically placed bathe the home with natural light, invites the outdoors in, and allow one to enjoy the tree-framed bay view and beautiful sunsets. This is truly exceptional and is a rare find! 3BR/2BA. Garage plus 2 extra parking pads.

\$579,000

Ruby Ng, CRS
6137 LaSalle Ave.
Oakland, CA
510-339-47799
www.rubyng.com

COLDWELL BANKER
6137 LaSalle Avenue, Oakland

NEW LISTING!

Open Sunday, March 17, 2-4:30pm

3734 McClelland Street, Oakland

Charming 2BR/1BA home with patio and large, fenced yard. Fireplace in living room. Formal dining room. 1-car garage. Convenient location on one-block long street near Hwys 13 & 580.

\$310,000

Ann Nichols
Senior Sales Consultant . (510) 338-1319

PACIFIC UNION
GMAC Real Estate Services

The GRUBB Co.

6013 Skyline Boulevard, Oakland Hills

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. Live in a work of art. Stunning new home by David Stark Wilson. Sited for maximum privacy with sweeping bay views. Exceptional architecture and exquisite finishes.

Offered at \$2,300,000

ERIKA CELESTRE
OFFICE: 510.339.0400/252
Residence: 658.3727
GRUBBCO.COM

Visit GRUBBCO.COM for a Photo Tour of this and other current listings.



Happy Valley Estate
Lafayette

Escape To Serenity

Nestled in treasured privacy overlooking prestigious Happy Valley, this gated 1.7 acre exquisite estate is surrounded by lush landscaping and breathtaking 180° views. Luminous walls of glass in this dramatic architecturally designed home fill each room with a full montage of lighting schemes throughout the day, and provide access to the numerous terraces that extend the home's livability outside. Expansive patios and meandering stone paths mingle effortlessly with a cascading waterfall pool, level lawn and private spa area. Adding the finishing touch, its location is just 30 minutes to the San Francisco Financial District. BART and freeway access are only minutes away, as are some of the finest Bay Area schools. Offered at \$2,195,000



For additional information contact
Anita Hughes
East Bay Estate Specialist
Previews Property Specialist
International President's Elite
Direct: 1-925-253-4648
Virtual Tour: www.cbncorcal.com
5 Moraga Way, Orinda, CA 94563



Open Sunday March 17 2-4:30



Montclair

1993 Mediterranean located on a quiet street close to village, lake, and transportation. Offers 3+BR 2+BA including dramatic master living room with fireplace, formal dining room, gourmet kitchen and view to the hills from most windows.



For more information, call
Mahin Rajabi
510-273-9783

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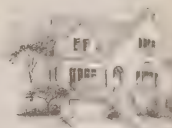


The GRUBB Co.

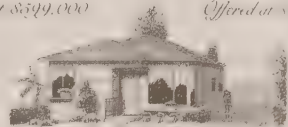
Open Sunday 2-4:30



5965 Keith Avenue
Rockridge
Offered at \$349,000



1706 Trestle Glen
Crocker Highlands
Offered at \$650,000



2539 Rampart Street
Lincoln Heights
Offered at \$359,000



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Open Homes: Sunday, March 17

543 - 42nd Street, Oakland.
Open Sun., 2-4.

Stately 1910 Victorian located in the convenient Temescal neighborhood of Oakland close to BART and shops. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, spacious study in developed attic, formal dining room with original built-ins. 2-car detached garage. \$469,000.

Joan Brunswick, 524-9888 x12

1519 Oxford #J, Berkeley. Open Sun., 2-4. Sunny, spacious flat in beautifully maintained co-op building. Best location close to U.C. and all the amenities of North Berkeley. Loan may be available with large down payment. Gorgeous stained glass window in dining room, living room with fireplace and bookcases. Kitchen with tile counters. 2 bedrooms, 1.5 bath. Quiet top unit; no shared walls. \$385,000.
Barbara Conheim, 524-9888 x28

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★ ★ Open House - Sunday, March 17, 2002 1-5 ★ ★
★ ★ Open House - Sunday, March 24, 2002 1-5 ★ ★



5350
Bryant Avenue
\$ 475,000

Charming Craftsman Bungalow in Rockridge

- 2 Bedroom/1 Bathroom
 - Inviting Front Porch
 - Remodeled Eat-in Kitchen
 - Remodeled Bathroom
 - Wood Floors
 - Formal Dining
 - Wonderful Back Yard
 - Garage and Work Shop
 - Fireplace in Dining Room
 - Lots of Upgrades, Move-in Cond.
- This home is in the Heart of Rockridge and is close to College Avenue Shops and many Fine Restaurants, Market Hall, BART, Freeways, Casual Carpooling to SF, Berkeley, Downtown Oakland, Emeryville, and Great Coffee.



Ron Kriss, Partner
547-5970 RonKriss@jps.net

Online Tour @ www.5350Bryant.com

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EL CERRITO. 1383 Summit Park Court \$1,380,000
Elegant home with breathtaking GG views. Grand entry. Stunning vaulted ceilings! Lavish marble, slate & hardwood floors. Office/library. Gourmet kitchen w/granite counters. 2 Master suites. Overlooks Mira Vista Golf Course

Nic Tang (510) 559-2918



BERKELEY. 3009 Fulton Street \$439,000
First time on market in 48 years. Three bedrooms plus large home office/family room w/separate entry. Refinished hardwood floors, new linoleum & carpeting, laundry, deck, patio, updated kitchen & bath. Walk to BART.

Open Sun 2-4 Barbara Kaplan (510) 559-2910



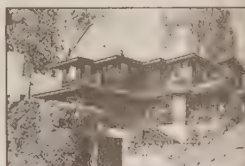
EL CERRITO. 7425 Fairmont Avenue \$379,000
Charming, remodeled two bedroom home. Walk to schools, BART, Fat Apple's, and El Cerrito Plaza. Spacious feeling, inviting interior, perfect location, large backyard.

Open Sun 2-4 Catherine Krueger (510) 559-2916



ALBANY. 1209 Dartmouth Street \$369,000
Sweet & sparkling 3 bedroom, 2 bath Albany charmer! Hardwood floors, bright kitchen open to dining area, large back bedroom w/glass doors out to private backyard. Move right in!

Open Sun 2-4:30 Luanne Warner (510) 845-9169



POINT RICHMOND. 400 Western Drive \$1,100,000
Spectacular sunset views! Private jetty! 100' of beach! Only 30 mins. from SF. Golden Gate & most rooms and decks. Gourmet kitchen, FDR room, master ste. w/deck, walk-in closet, west. Walk to beach

Open Sun 1-4 Jeri Jones (510) 845-9169



RICHMOND. N&E 2838 Gaynor Avenue \$500,000
Lovely 2BR, 1 1/2 BA home features remodeled skylight & breakfast nook, refinished hardwood throughout, and large, magical backyard with master suite, spa. Detached bonus room perfect for studio/office

Open Sun 2-4 Todd Hodson (510) 845-9169



ALBANY. 1115 Evelyn Avenue \$300,000
Spacious 3 bedroom, 2 bath on charming street! Open floor plan! Sophisticated living room & dining room opens to garden. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, w/Bay views. Spacious 2 car garage w. drive.

Open Sun 2-4:30 Luanne Warner (510) 845-9169



EL CERRITO. 2530 Mira Vista Drive \$500,000
Loft-Like Contemporary. Great light, soaring ceilings, art. Sophisticated living room & dining room opens to garden. 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, w/Bay views. Spacious 2 car garage w. drive.

Open Sun 2-4 Ann Ariola Plant (510) 845-9169

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OPEN SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 2-4:30



Harbord Court, Upper Rockridge
Charming Bungalow in most sought after location in the "UPPER ROCKRIDGE" on a quiet cul-de-sac. Random hardwood floors, living room with fireplace & built-in shelves. Landscaped yard, 2-car attached garage. \$499,000

Ashley Wilcox O'Neill
510-338-1368
oneillab@aol.com
pacunion.com



NEW LISTING



FERNHOFF COURT, OAKLAND

Experience the luxury of the peaceful and serene Oakland Hills. This great ranch house is situated on a gated acre with magnificent panoramic views of the Bay. There are 3BR/2.5BA, decks, patios with views from each bedroom, and a wonderful level yard. Fabulous potential! By appointment only.



Offered at \$1,195,000

Dee Knowland
Senior Sales Associate
510/338-1318



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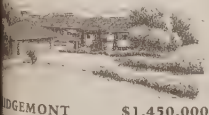
(510) 531-5303 / (866) 861-5555
www.youngcaliforniahomes.com

Open Sunday

CLAREMONT \$1,495,000
1010 VIRGO RD. (Open 2-4)
Priced Custom built re-creation of original 1922 Colonial home. Original quality & detailing. 4BR/3BA, fireplaces, SF & GG views, double lot & garages. Leslie Easterday x1363



MONTCLAIR \$1,475,000
1010 VIRGO RD. (Open 2-4:30)
The Best! Wonderful Mediterranean w/ 4+ acres. Golden Gate, Bay Bridge view. Property of Jeff Armstrong, lots of built-ins & 4 cars. 4BR/3.5BA, 3 fireplaces, fully landscaped gym. Francis Heath x1357



CLAREMONT \$1,450,000
1010 VIRGO RD. (Open 2-5)
New Listing! Incredible, custom contemporary located on 3+ acres w/ panoramic parkland view. 4BR/3.5BA, family room, rec room & more! Contact Vicki Woodhead x1334

OAKLAND HILLS \$1,110,000
1010 TUNNEL RD. (Open 2-4:30)
Building new 3+BR/2.5BA contemporary Mediterranean designed by architect Richard Janzen. Chef's kitchen w/ham rm combo, & beautiful courtyard. Dee Knowland x1318

MONTCLAIR \$899,000
1010 BROADWAY TERR. (Open 2-4:30)
New Bay view contemporary w/unique views throughout. Gourmet kitchen, formal dining w/French doors, decks, family rm & master BR. Level yard. 3+BR/2.5BA. Kathy Flynn x1317



MONTCLAIR \$849,000
1010 FAIRLANE DR. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Located on just over an acre w/ bay views. 4BR/2.5BA. Family room, master suite open to private patio w/ outdoor dining or relaxing. Great view of the Village. Lori Araz x1330

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Open Sunday



MONTCLAIR \$849,000
1010 MOUNTAIN BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Adorable & charming 4 yr old traditional. 4BR/2.5BA, fantastic & graceful floorplan, level-out play area. Fabulous location. Nancy Moore x1302



NORTH BERKELEY \$750,000
484 VASSAR AVE. (Open 2-4)
Fabulous light filled 4BR/4BA home with 2nd unit. Panoramic Bay views, great floor plan, easy access to public transportation & parks. Anne Van Dyke x1399



MONTCLAIR \$610,000
1805 NORTHWAY CT. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Bay & SF views from this contemporary home w/open floor plan. Vaulted ceilings, 3BR/2.5BA. New carpet, brand new decks. Quiet cul-de-sac location near parks & hiking trails. Ann Nichols x1319

PARKRIDGE ESTATES \$559,000
5195 PARKRIDGE DR. (Open 2-4:30)
3+BR/2BA home located just steps away from a national hiking trail. Sweeping parkland view, updated kit & bathrooms. Great neighborhood. Sandi Klemmer x1314

Open Sunday



UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$499,000
39 HARBORD CT. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Charming Bungalow on quiet cul-de-sac in most sought after neighborhood. 2BR/1.5BA, living room w/fireplace & built-ins, landscaped yard. Ashley O'Neill x1368



MONTCLAIR \$449,000
6432 THORNHILL DR. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Woodsy 3BR/1BA retreat. Includes 2 master suites. Open living/dining/kitchen. Home office. Close to Village. Level yard. Joanna Hirsch x1366



OAKLAND \$310,000
3734 McCLELLAND ST. (Open 2-4:30)
New Listing! Charming 2BR/1BA home w/patio & large, fenced yard. Fireplace in living rm. Formal dining room. 1-car attached garage. On 1-block long street near Hwy 13 & 580. Ann Nichols x1319

By Appointment



PIEDMONT \$3,350,000
Award-winning design on approx. 1/3 acre in prime location. Extraordinary home w/6+BR/4.5BA, gourmet kitchen, family room & much more. Rich architectural detail & quality. Georgia Cornell x1325

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,500,000
Live in high style while viewing the glittering lights of SF's famed skyline. 2 year old 4+BR/2+BA contemporary w/ kitchen/family room & level yard area. Magnificent & sumptuous! Patricia Scott Winslow x1315

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$1,200,000
Exquisite Crocker Highlands Normandy. Gracious public rooms rich w/detail & charm. Gourmet kitchen, library & living room open to private English gardens. 3BR/3BA up, 2BR/1BA down. Teri Carlisle x1305



OAKLAND HILLS \$1,195,000
New Listing! Great 3BR/2.5BA ranch house on a gated acre w/panoramic bay views. Decks & patios w/views from each bedroom. Wonderful large level yard. Fabulous potential! Dee Knowland x1318

By Appointment

NORTH BERKELEY \$995,000
Spacious light filled 5+BR/3BA home w/ wonderful Bay views. Lovely architectural details, recently updated, double lot w/ gardens & level spaces for outdoor enjoyment. Leslie Avant x1341

MONTCLAIR \$859,000
Gorgeous 6 yr old 3912/- sq. ft. contemporary. Spacious formal living & dining rms. Chef's kit/fam rm combo. 4BR suites/4+BA. 3 fireplaces, 3 terraces w/lush canyon vistas. Jeffrey Himmel x1307

MONTCLAIR \$719,000
Level-in contemporary Ranch on quiet cul-de-sac, filtered Bay & tree views, level yard. 4BR/2BA, family/media room w/fireplace & built-in book case. Teri Carlisle x1305

BERKELEY \$585,000
Stylish 2 yr old home. Architectural beauty, artistic colors. Gourmet kit/fam rm. Near 4th St. shops. 2BR/2BA. Sophisticated! Nancy Noman x1373

PIEDMONT \$439,000
Charming 2BR/1BA craftsman home. Airy, modern kitchen/fam rm, spectacular South Bay view. Structural fixer-upper. Debi Fitzgerald x1306

EMERYVILLE \$260,000
Elegant & architectural two-story condo in exciting Emeryville warehouse complex. Sun filled spaces, loft bedroom, handsome kitchen & bath, secure garage. Anne Van Dyke x1399

Coming Soon



ROCKRIDGE \$699,000
Fabulous craftsman w/legal rental cottage. Gum wood details & hardwood floors throughout. 2+BR/1.5BA, redone kitchen & bath. Great location near BART & College Ave. Michelle Vasey x1359

PIEDMONT AVE. \$319,000
Spacious 2BR/2BA condominium w/ updated baths, formal dining room. Corner unit. Lots of windows w/beautiful tree views. Robyn Mohr x1310

BERKELEY price upon request
Ocean View charmer! Approx. 1641 sq. ft., 3BR/2BA plus family room. Level yard. Close to 4th Street shops. Jeffrey Himmel x1307

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22 Wildwood Avenue, Piedmont
OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30. This lovely Prairie-style home has all the room you'll need - four bedrooms, two and one half baths, a spacious living room, formal dining room, cozy den and wonderful eat-in kitchen.

Offered at \$689,000

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Market Indicator*					
Last wk	This wk				
6.750	6.875				
COMPANY	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Loan Product Rate/Points APR/Lock	Comments
A Better Mortgage 800-432-0424 DRE#01242793	30-yr Fixed 6.875...0.000 7.040...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.125...0.000 7.310...30	15-yr Fixed 6.375...0.000 6.580...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.250...0.000 6.430...30	Open Weekends. Credit Problems OK 2nd Mfg's. No equity required. www.capitalvalleymortgage.com
AAA Mortgage 888-821-6200 DRE#01096146	30-yr Fixed 6.875...0.000 6.970...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500...2.000 6.740...30	15-yr Fixed 6.500...0.000 6.850...30	3/1 ARM 5.500...1.000 5.880...30	HOME IMPROVEMENT DEBT CONSOLIDATION PURCHASER WWW.AAAHOMELANS.NET
AccessBanc Mortgage 800-861-2765 DRE#00892684	30-yr Fixed** 6.875...0.000 6.937...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo*	Special**	Special**	**3/6mo ARM 5.75% no pts no fees 4.825 **5/6mo ARM 6.375% no pts no fees 4.825 *Prepay restrictions may apply
A-Olympic Funding-Best Rate 800-840-5588 DRE#01197415	30-yr Fixed 6.500...2.000 6.610...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.750...2.000 6.850...30	15-yr Fixed 6.000...2.000 6.120...30	Pymt Buster ARM 4.375...2.000 4.423...30	Open 7 days 9-9 Apply 24/7 www.ofcfoans.com Pleasanton office at the Riley's Center
California Mortgage Mart 800-947-4769 DRE#00406187	30-yr Fixed 6.875...0.000 6.950...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.000...0.000 7.080...30	15-yr Fixed 6.375...0.000 6.480...30		For further details and Loan Application visit www.CaliforniaMortgageMart.com
Cal-State Funding 800-883-5363 DRE#00874441	30-yr Fixed 6.625...1.000 6.820...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.000...1.000 7.190...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.500...1.000 6.600...1.000	3/1 ARM Jumbo 6.000...1.000 6.190...1.000	Interest Rates are on the move daily Today for the Lowest Rates + Fees Lowest in 7 yrs. Submit applic + g
CMG Mortgage 800-958-5339 DRE#01170028	30-yr Fixed 6.750...1.125 6.930...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.875...1.500 7.054...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 5.500...1.000 5.818...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.000...1.250 6.146...30	Open Saturday + Sunday. Quick Qualify. Stated Income option available. Available financing for people with less than perfect
Downey Savings & Loan 800-798-2148	30-yr Fixed 6.750...1.375 6.916...45	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.875...1.875 7.077...45	1-mo ARM 2.950...1.500 5.462...45		Call by March 15 for Special Offer!
Homeward Solutions 800-641-7556 DRE#00921943	30-yr Fixed 6.875...0.500 7.110...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.250...0.500 7.400...30	15-yr Fxd 6.500...0.500 6.740...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo call...	www.finet.com
Matrix Investment Corp. 860-366-8916 DOC#4130418	30-yr Fixed 6.375...1.990 6.670...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.500...1.990 6.650...30	30-yr Fixed 6.750...0.000 6.880...30	15-yr Fixed 5.750...1.990 6.260...30	Good & Bad Credit Considered Brokers Welcome www.matrixinvestments.com Outside Sales Leaders Desired
Mortgage Market 800-837-5626 DRE#00887562	30-yr Fixed 7.000...0.000 7.120...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.375...0.000 7.498...30	15-yr Fixed 6.500...0.000 6.692...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.660...60	Credit problems, bankruptcy, difficult loans or specialty. All gov't loans. 100% loans credit lines, construction. 20 years of service.
Olympic Funding Bay Area 888-833-1000 DRE#01197415	30-yr Fixed 7.000...0.000 7.142...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.250...0.000 7.343...30	3/1 ARM Jumbo 6.000...0.000 6.123...30	25yr/6mo Jumbo 4.250...0.000 4.375...30	3.75 single close constr & remodel-to-per to \$2m. 18 mos constr period 100% financing Call weekends 9-9 Apply www.SFO
Pacific West Financial 800-798-7334 DRE#01124581	30-yr Fixed 6.625...1.000 6.723...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.875...1.000 7.018...30	5/1 ARM Jumbo 6.000...1.500 6.184...30	1-mo ARM 5.375...1.000 5.559...30	Se habla Espanol! 100% Purchase Loans Credit Problems OK
Paramount Mortgage 800-372-7266 DRE#00622056	30-yr Fixed 6.875...0.000 7.000...30	30-yr Fxd Jumbo 7.000...0.000 7.125...30	5-yr ARM Jumbo*	15-yr Fxd Jumbo 6.375...0.000 6.500...30	*Interest only to \$2,500,000 1 month COFI 3.95%, 0 pts, 4% APR 30 yrs

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Rates based on \$150,000 loan for single family residence. Jumbo rates (loans in excess of \$300,700) based on \$350,000 loan. All rates are believed to be accurate but cannot be guaranteed and are subject to change without notice. Minimum downpayment requirements and other restrictions may apply. Closing costs may vary. Contact each company for details. Points include origination and discount fees. APR = annual percentage rate and is calculated by each company - includes costs to obtain loan and private mortgage insurance. Lock=rate lock period. ARM=adjustable rate mortgage. Companies pay a fee to be in this Guide. *Avege 30 yr. fixed conforming with 0 points. Copyright 2002, InfoTrak National Data Services and Knight Publishing Co.

If you would like to be included in this Mortgage Guide, please call 781 276-1111

Oakland/Rockridge



Rockridge Victorian Estate! \$1,300,000
Circa 1873 Italianate Villa with grand portico. Ornate entry hall, generous formal rooms, fabulous details. Nearly 1/2 acre with creek. A rare find!

Steven Biasatti (510) 339-8900 x239

Lafayette



Contemporary Estate! \$1,225,000
Featuring 5 bedrooms including a dramatic master suite w/fireplace, and sauna, 3.5 baths, spacious entry with an atrium, and a floor plan perfect for entertaining.

Randy Churchill (925) 975-4360

Oakland Hills



Townhouse with views! \$419,000
Redwood Hills - Approx 1500sf - 2 car gar, den, decks, eat-in kitchen. Panoramic Bay & City Views - Fireplace, new paint & carpet - move-in condition.

Lois Johnson (510) 339-8900 x226

Orinda



Finish & Profit! \$769,500
Five bedroom, four bath home w/3000 sq. ft. of living space on a private .45 acre lot. Featuring hardwood floors, lovely granite kitchen, and an excellent wooded location.

Janice Dalton (925) 828-1260

Oakland



Hillier Highlands Beauty \$499,000
Stunning unobstructed Bay Views. Sun end unit, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. Views of spectacular sunsets while sitting on the deck.

Mary Hanna (510) 339-8900

Piedmont/Montclair



First Time Open! \$749,000
One of a kind level floor plan Piedmont side Montclair. Large LV & Family RM Formal Dining - 60's kitchen in great condition maple & walnut flooring one of a kind. A must see!

Mel Copland (510) 339-8900 x255

Berkeley



Ballantine Jewel! \$599,000
Built on a quiet street, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath home + studio. Walk to UC, shops, gourmet ghetto.

Mary Hanna (510) 339-8900 x253

North Oakland



Entertaining Friends is Easy \$359,000
In this "Fantasy Home" located in North Oakland's historic Idora Park. Less than a mile to Market Hall & Rockridge BART, you won't have far to go to get to the best restaurants, shopping & entertainment Oakland has to offer.

Tom Nemeth (510) 207-6537

Oakland



Location, Location, Location! \$289,950
Sunny kitchen, nook, indoor laundry, formal living and dining rooms, original kitchen, and some new windows. Needs TLC but has great potential.

Linda Smith (925) 456-5047

Emeryville



New Emeryville Listing! \$499,000
Watergate condo, popular 1BD, 1BA plan, includes amenities of pool, gym, tennis, gym. Easy commute to SF.

Mary Hanna (510) 339-8900

Danville

Coming Soon! \$1,799,000
Located on one of the best lots in Diablo Ranch Estates. A Magnificent single story home in a prestigious community! Great views of hills and nestled at the foot of Mt. Diablo.

Danville

Sycamore Creek Beauty! \$644,950
Enjoy gracious & comfortable living in this spacious 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Featuring an excellent floor plan, a large private yard, and beautifully maintained.

Oakland

In the Heart of Oakland! \$1,380,000
Located in a fast moving commercial district. Building is approx. 3156 sq. ft., on .18 acre lot w/parking spaces in the rear. Property is zoned for commercial-retail and can be developed into a multi-level office building.

Martinez

A True Gem! \$369,900
A fabulous home with 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, soaring ceilings in family room, lovely backyard patio with deck and spa, and spacious master suite with views for miles.

Eastvale Valley

Gorgeous Home, Large Lot! \$860,000
Price includes build able lot already subdivided (2 acres) & home on 1.31 acre...what a steal! Enjoy views of San Marco & canyon. Huge game room with wet bar, refrig, & pool table. 2 barns & beautiful landscaping.

Walnut Creek

Open Sunday 12-6 pm
Resort Style Living! \$345,900
Come prepared 2 buy & throw out the comps. Not often 4 sale, rare avail. 2BR/2BA unique condo. Over looking a main pool, creek, lake, & country club. 5-Star Panoramic View!

Lafayette

Fabulous View Lot! \$650,000
Located in Relix Valley with Estate potential on 2.34 Acres! Huge and private and on one of the finest lots around. Bring your builder and architect to build your dream home and create your own private estate.

Noroga

Open Sun 1-4 pm
Park-Like Setting! \$339,000
Two story end unit, freshly painted, new carpets, 2 large bedrooms, 2.5 baths, deck with planting area.

Danville

Just Listed!
4 bedroom, 2 bath, updated kitchen w/ floorced fam rm w/wet bar. Great w/ views of park. Move-in condition last!

Martinez

Wonderful Victorian!
2 bedroom, 1 bath single story in excellent condition. Dual pane windows, recessed floors, copper plumbing, vintage gas and newer roof, partial basement & access to garage.



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WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$418,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$300,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$360,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$480,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$604,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$354 - \$325,000

BERKELEY
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$390,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$200,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$409,000

EMERYVILLE
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$393,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$300,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$500,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$402,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$485,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$665,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$448,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$720,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$620,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$800,000

OAKLAND
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$452,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$198,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$396,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$425,000

EMERYVILLE
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$117,500

ALAMEDA
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$245,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$255,000
 15181 Alameda Wy - \$230,000

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739 Jean Street
 Sunny income property can provide stable income for its years to come. This property is well maintained, has a pool, new exterior paint and a pest control clearance. All are nice sized one bedrooms and include parking. It is just walking distance to Grand Lake and Lakeshore shopping, Merritt, the casual commute and easy transportation.

Offered at \$639,000
 Open Saturday, 3/16, 11-12
 Open Sunday, 3/17, 2-4

For more information, please call
Richard Matus
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 Cellular: (510) 506-8896
 rmatus@dnai.com

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 848-1950 Ext. 246

THORNWALL Properties



215 Ramona Avenue

This classic Piedmont home is on the market for the first time in almost 40 years. Beautiful windows with bay views give light to the three-plus bedrooms, three baths, family room, formal dining room, and living room with marble fireplace. This home has a lovely yard including a lawn, beautiful mature landscaping, and a brick patio close to the kitchen. It also has a great central location with parks, schools and restaurants close by.

Open March 24 and 31, 2-4:30 p.m.

Claire Cochran Cunningham
 510-287-9065
 Fine Homes Specialist
 claire.cunningham@pruweb.com

Prudential California Realty

1915 108th Av - \$180,000
 877 21st St - \$222,000
 860 34th St - \$190,000
 881 47th Av - \$283,500
 1134 60th Av - \$135,000
 1737 73rd Av - \$200,000
 2641 74th Av - \$435,000
 1126 76th Av - \$173,500
 1323 82nd Av - \$245,000
 1136 92nd Av - \$228,000
 1214 94th Av - \$195,000
 8915 A St - \$220,000
 8620 B St - \$240,000
 5927 Chaboly Tr - \$465,000
 2816 Delaware St - \$240,000
 4029 East 17th St - \$217,000
 2425 East 26th St - \$200,000
 1419 East 32nd St - \$235,000
 9624 East St - \$350,000
 3982 Edwards Av - \$285,000
 4551 Elinora Av - \$460,000
 3742 Enos Av - \$290,000
 6441 Essex St - \$246,000
 3221 Florida St - \$275,000
 7215 Fresno St - \$222,000
 414 Hale Av - \$185,000
 3632 Harbor View Av - \$240,000
 1512 Holly St - \$420,000
 9500 Holly St - \$170,000
 2614 La Cuesta Av - \$500,000
 3431 Laguna Av - \$175,000
 2902 Lakeshore Av - \$465,000
 6210 Majestic Av - \$335,000
 233 Mather St - \$430,000
 6031 Mauritania Av - \$315,000
 3024 Modesto Av - \$348,000
 3455 Noyo St - \$539,000
 407 Orange St #424 - \$200,000
 6451 Outlook Av - \$420,000
 3952 Patterson Av - \$380,000
 5037 Pierpoint Av - \$540,000
 6373 Pinehaven Rd - \$450,000
 4659 Reinhardt Dr - \$473,500

3118 Robinson Dr - \$529,000
 195 Santa Clara Av #3 - \$204,000
 2242 Seminary Av - \$225,000
 50 Sheridan Rd - \$650,000
 14370 Skyline Bl - \$565,000
 2735 Truman Av - \$270,000
 1007 Underhills Rd - \$400,000
 500 Vernon St #202 - \$310,000
 9921 Walnut St - \$232,000
 3471 Wyman St - \$189,000
 5969 Zinn Dr - \$515,000

RICHMOND

625 31st St - \$217,000
 967 32nd St - \$230,000
 649 33rd St - \$184,000
 801 34th St - \$276,000
 625 5th St - \$79,500
 2951 Cutting Bl - \$245,000
 824 Humboldt St - \$195,000
 1361 Mariposa St - \$238,500
 1909 Nevins Av - \$200,000
 1709 Ohio Av - \$200,000
 1524 Oscar St - \$237,500
 1500 Poplar Av - \$250,000
 2587 Sheldon Dr - \$259,000
 139 South 13th St - \$135,000
 420 South 29th St - \$235,000
 212 South 37th St - \$275,000
 1008 Trailside Dr - \$443,000
 1012 Trailside Dr - \$503,000
 1817 Virginia Av - \$110,000

See SALES, Page B16

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Oakland
 \$180,000 834 Peralta St. Contractors special 4bd, 1ba, formal living room, laundry room, full kitchen, great location. Across from school and near BART. Call for more info. Nina 510-814-4836
 \$188,000 3W Embarcadero 227. Quiet super private unit on second floor with carport parking. One bedroom with double doors. Walk to Jack London waterfront. Next to channel "2". Donnaluci 510-814-4825
 \$225,000 930 Pico St. Perfect for live/work! Approx. 1400 sq. ft. 14' ceiling, skylights, & roll up door. Needs work! Good location. Kathy 510-814-4706
 \$325,000 1366 34th St. OPEN SAT & SUN 10-4. Live-work opportunity in loft-style converted Victorian. New foundation. Downstairs legal height. Wonderful raised bed garden. Can be used residential or commercial. Kathy 510-814-4706
 \$259,000 1427 17th St. Very large home. This house needs work. 2 1/2 bath, 2 roughed in bedrooms, 2 full bathrooms, w/ approx. 1000 sq. ft. of storage. Concrete foundation. Call for more info. Kathy 510-814-4706
 \$329,000 1182 14th St. Property is in residential zoning. Can be used as commercial or residential. Owner-occupied. Work OK. 3+ bedrooms, street parking. Kathy 510-814-4706

San Leandro
 \$249,950 1400 Carpenter St. #116. 1st OPEN Sun. 2-4. 2bd, 2ba condo close to BART, bus, and shopping! Fireplace in livingroom, inside laundry, and underground parking. Lovely floor plan in convenient location, new carpeting, and freshly painted. Tere 510-814-4840
 \$295,000 13851 Seagate Dr. Lovely floor plan, bright sunny 3bd, 2ba, all appliances, laundry room, call for more info. Tere 510-814-4840
 \$249,950 1400 Carpenter St. #116. 1st OPEN Sun. 2-4. 2bd, 2ba condo close to BART, bus, and shopping. Lovely garden in courtyard with pool, spa, & clubhouse. Elevators, 1 garage space. Tere 510-814-4840

San Leandro
 \$270,000 14413 Seagate Dr. Immaculate 2 bd, 1 ba townhome. Great location near BART, school, and golf course. Tere 510-814-4840
 \$329,000 2507 Galleon Pl. Lovely quiet location at Marina Seagate. 2bd, 2ba dining room, open kitchen, and inside laundry. Community pool, tennis courts, spa, and close to golf course. Tere 510-814-4840
 \$395,000 1234 Ardmore Dr. Great condition! Wonderful 3bd, 2ba living room, open kitchen, and inside laundry. Community pool, tennis courts, spa, and close to golf course. Tere 510-814-4840
 \$277,000 14380 Outrigger Dr. Single level 2 bd townhome with inside laundry, and dining area. New carpeting. Two 1 car garages. Pools, spas, and tennis courts. Tere 510-814-4840

San Lorenzo
 \$275,000 14400 Seagate Dr. End unit with 2 bd, 1 1/2 ba, dry, and fireplace. Call for more info. Tere 510-814-4840
 \$369,000 15889 Via Granada, OPEN SUNDAY 2-4. Charming single level 3 bd, 2 ba home with open beam family room with skylights, plantation shutters, and security system. Attached double garage. Tere 510-814-4840

Union City
 \$599,000 33448 6th St. Fourplex. Annual gross income \$66,000. 3bd, two-3 bd unit, open kitchen, dry, gas, & wtr meter. Call for more info. Tere 510-814-4709

Reid

FROM PAGE B6

topic at the California Association of Mortgage Brokers East Bay Chapter's March Dinner/Seminar. The seminar presenter is **Steven E. Davidson** of Davidson, Sheehan & Jewel. Davidson will lead attendees through the complicated subject of holding title to property. Mark your calendar for 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., Thursday, March 21, at the Crow Canyon Country Club. The CAMB Hotline is 925-275-2663.

Breakfast Club

Join the lively Wednesday Morning Breakfast Meetings, presented by the California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL). Meetings are held every Wednesday at American Title in Walnut Creek on Olympic boulevard. Start time begins promptly at 8:15 a.m. Breakfast refreshments are served. Need info? Want to recommend a speaker? Call **Pat Johnson** of TRI Commercial Real Estate Services at 925.296.3300.

Who's on first?

■ **Gus Saar** of Old Republic Title invites you to visit their Montclair office. The offices have been renovated and Gus says everything is brand new. Visit Gus or call him at

510-339-2020

■ The California Association of Mortgage Brokers East Bay Chapter President is **Guy Schwartz**. Schwartz is with CMG Mortgage and can be reached at 925-983-3023.

Someone new at your company? Something special your company is doing? Changing locations? Putting on a seminar? Let me know. I'd love to let the world know. All my contact info is listed below.

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 14413 SEAGATE DR. PENDING
 2 Bdrm/1 1/2 Bath, new carpeting/air cond. at Marina Seagate. \$299,000
 13851 SEAGATE DR. PENDING
 2 Bdrm/2 1/2 Bath, new carpeting/air cond. at Marina Seagate. \$299,000
 1400 CARPENTER ST. #116
 2 BD/2 BA, walk to BART + transp. \$249,000
 14578 OUTRIGGER DR. SOLD
 3 BD/2 1/2 BA, new carpeting/air cond. \$335,000
 2507 GALLEON PL. PENDING
 3 BD/2 1/2 BA, new carpeting/air cond. at Marina Seagate. \$329,000
SAN LORENZO
 NEW LISTING: 15889 VIA GRANADA
 3 BD/2 BA + Family Room. \$369,000
 OPEN SUN. 2-4pm.

What's up, Doc?

I need your information for this column. Fundraisers, meetings, announcements, promotions, designations and change of scenery (company). I want to know it all. Information deadline is two weeks before the event. There are three convenient ways to reach me. Send an email to bobbierid@dotplanet.com. Fax bobbierid@dotplanet.com. Fax

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Condo in Jack London Square. Perfect for one person. Includes swimming pool, tennis courts near waterfront. Channel 2. PAYMENTS may be less than rent! Now Only \$174,888!

Oakland vacant lot with water view. \$28,880

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Sales

FROM PAGE B13

SAN LEANDRO

1465 156th Av - \$290,000
1551 Bancroft Av - \$390,000
589 Beatrice St - \$255,000
1310 Devonshire Av - \$305,000
15177 Discovery Rd - \$459,000
260 Joaquin Av - \$370,000
2341 Lagoon Ct - \$544,000
411 Lloyd Av - \$288,000
709 Matoza Ln - \$503,500
1624 Orchard Av - \$350,000
14267 Orchid Dr - \$350,000
1383 Sayre St - \$356,000
1782 Starview Dr - \$455,000
839 Sybil Av - \$355,000
14136 Tiburon Rd - \$369,000
508 Warden Av - \$280,000
15945 Wellington Wy - \$292,000

SAN LORENZO

1827 Bandoni Av - \$338,000
1389 Culver Pl - \$266,000
15763 Via Lunado - \$305,000
1069 Via Manzanitas - \$300,000
15931 Via Pinalte - \$294,000
1354 Via Vista - \$300,000

By the numbers

ALAMEDA

TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$300,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$604,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$414,500

ALBANY

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$200,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$409,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$390,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$333,000

BERKELEY

TOTAL SALES: 10
LOWEST PRICE: \$300,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$800,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$533,300

EL CERRITO

TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST PRICE: \$198,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$452,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$367,750

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 1
PRICE: \$117,500

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 57
LOWEST PRICE: \$135,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$650,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$255,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$312,921

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 19
LOWEST PRICE: \$79,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$503,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$235,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$237,500

SAN LEANDRO

TOTAL SALES: 17
LOWEST PRICE: \$255,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$544,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$355,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$365,382

SAN PABLO

TOTAL SALES: 1
LOWEST PRICE: \$117,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$117,500
MEDIAN PRICE: \$117,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$117,500

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Heidi Marchesotti
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★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$729,000
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Collette Ford
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★ Open Sun. 2-5 \$639,000
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Ivan & Michael
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Redwood Heights \$639,000
Huge home w/lots of space. 5BR/3.5BA. Court location w/view of the hills. Must see.

Sovanna Yorn
(510) 527-9800

Grand Lake Fourplex \$639,000
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Richard Matus
(510) 834-2010



Upper Rockridge Gem \$549,000
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Julie Lehman
(510) 845-0211

★ Open Sun. 2-4 \$519,000
3430 Davis St. Farm in the city. Absolutely unique! 3BR/2BA totally renovated Queen Anne on 1/2 acre.

Derek Lyons & Michael Friedman
(510) 845-0200



★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$500,000
839 Vermont Street. View downtown Oakland from this 5+BR+au-pair fixer ready for your talents!

George Millirons
(510) 339-9290

★ Open Sun. 2-4 \$380,000
2200 East 21st St. Big Victorian with in-law unit. Clean, light, views, new foundation & lg. backyard.

Eric Silverman
(510) 845-0200

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$349,000
1072/74 62nd St. Well cared for duplex. Ea. unit 1BR/1BA w/private garden on large level lot.

Kurt Meyer
(510) 339-9290

★ Open Sun. 2-4 \$349,000
Temescal Bungalow. 432 50th St. 2+BR/1BA, nr. shops, transit & fwys. Lt. remodel. Must see.

Connie Payne
(510) 524-2526

Diamond In The Rough \$310,000
3BR/1BA cosmetic fixer. Formal DR w/built-ins, ELK, hm. office, garage, sm. yard, walk 2 BART!

Debra Alber
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Montclair View Lot \$279,000
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David Higgins
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Waterside Retreat \$259,000
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Spacious Traditional \$239,500
2006 Auson Ave. 3BR/1BA, eat-in kitchen, formal dining rm., w/built-ins, hw. under carpet.

Joan Simmons
(510) 834-2010

BERKELEY/ALBANY

Victorian Fourplex \$589,000
Four 1-BR units. BOM! Price reduced.

Henriette Lanier-Green
(510) 834-2010

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$575,000
2217 San Antonio, Alameda. Victorian jewel w/3+BR/1+BA. Is perfect retreat for commuter!

Hope Broderick
(510) 339-9290

Idyllic Albany! \$570,000
Lg. home used as 5BR/4BA. Upgraded backyd. w/fruit trees, parking +! Great area!

Vanessa Timon Smith
(510) 524-2526

★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$475,000
3025 Harper Street, Berkeley. Beautifully restored 4BR/1.5BA Victorian one block from BART!

Dana Eng
(510) 339-9290



Spacious Home w/Studio \$430,000
Lovely 2BR/1BA w/detached studio on tree-lined Albany street. Refinished hrdwd. flrs., big kitchen, private yard, needs TLC.

Ana & Pascal Forest
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★ Open Sun. 2-4:30 \$385,000
1833 Parker St. Exquisite bungalow! 2+BR/1BA, finished attic, hrdwd., built-ins. Excellent cond.!

Janet Kaplan
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Walk 4th Bike Marina! \$375,000
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NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Vera H.-C. Chan and Mary F. Pols. Times; Robert W. Butler, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Anthony Brenzani, Christy Lemire, Tim Molloy, Sheila Norman-Culp and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; Stephen Holden, Dave Kehr, Elvis Mitchell, A.O. Scott and Lawrence Van Gelder, New York Times; Valerie Kulkenski, Bob Strauss and Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Kevin Thomas, Los Angeles Times; Gary Dowell, Tom Maurstad, Chris Vogner and Philip Wurtch, Dallas Morning News; and Roger Moore, Orlando Sentinel.

"ALL ABOUT THE BENJAMINS": An occasional burst of visual inventiveness livens up this standard-issue crime-comedy. Ice Cube plays Bucum Jackson, a Miami bounty hunter in pursuit of Reggie White (Mike Epps), a serial-bat-jumper. When Reggie takes a wrong turn into a storage complex where a bloody jewel heist has just gone down, the murderous crooks shoot their way past Bucum, unaware that Reggie is hiding in their getaway van. Reggie and Bucum both escape, but the bad guys now have Reggie's wallet along

with his \$60 million lottery ticket. When Bucum finally tracks Reggie down, the longtime antagonists join forces to get the ticket back. — B. Strauss. (R: violence, sex, language.) 1 hour, 37 minutes. C+

"AMELIE": A feel-good movie in the best possible sense, a comic take from French director Jean-Pierre Jeunet that vibrates with joy and fast dances with life. Amelie (the relentlessly charming Audrey Tautou) is a lonely young lady who keeps a watchful eye on the rest of the world. One day she sets out to reunite a child's treasure with its long-grown owner and discovers she likes playing emotional Robin Hood. Setting out on a path to help her neighbors and the denizens of the cafe where she works, she inadvertently trips into a love affair with a guy (Mathieu Kassovitz) who might be as sweetly eccentric as she is. Every time you think the movie is getting too sticky-sweet, Jeunet throws something tart and funny in our path. — M. Pols. (R: sexual content.) 2 hours. A

"A BEAUTIFUL MIND": Very good by the book-film marketing from director Ron Howard. The film spans 47 years in the life of John Forbes Nash Jr.

(Russell Crowe), a mathematical genius who won the Nobel Prize for economics in 1994. Doubtless the element that made Crowe want to play Nash (brilliantly, as usual) is that Nash also suffers from schizophrenia, and has for decades. Daring only in its subject matter — math and mental illness — the movie follows the careful trajectory of a classic inspirational story, occasionally veering into the medicinal, but still undeniably moving and effective. Jennifer Connelly is excellent as Nash's wife. — M. Pols. (PG-13: intense thematic material, sexual content and a scene of violence.) 2 hours, 8 minutes. B+

"BIG FAT LIAR": Frankie Muniz plays Jason, a 14-year-old who can't tell the truth. Inspiration strikes when his father complains of his "God-given talent" for making up tales, so he writes a short story on a big fat liar for a homework assignment. By chance, he collides with an obnoxious Hollywood producer on the way to deliver this assignment. The producer (Paul Giamatti), starved for a hit, swipes the story and puts it into preproduction. Jason has lost his assignment, and his excuse is an unbelievable whopper. Jason and his sole

pal, Kaylee (Amanda Bynes), set out to get an apology or, failing that, revenge. The film is predictable and overly reliant on the far-fetched, but no lie, it's the hippest kids movie since "Spy Kids." — R. Moore. (PG: some language.) 1 hour, 27 minutes. B-

"BLACK HAWK DOWN": Director Ridley Scott takes an unflinching look at a 1993 conflict — a planned 45-minute "extraction" of a Somali warlord's top men — that instead became a blood bath that killed 19 Americans and an estimated 1,000 Somalis. Co-starring in a large cast including Ewan McGregor and Sam Shepard, Josh Hartnett as Rangers Staff Sergeant Matt Eversmann is not so much the leading man as the terribly involved observer through which the audience becomes terribly involved itself. The riveting photography, technical language and pounding exchange of gunfire contribute to a gruesome realism without sensationalizing it. — V. Chan. (R: strong violence, language.) 2 hours, 23 minutes. A-

"THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO": In this version of Alexandre Dumas' classic 1846 saga, revenge is not merely sweet, but also picturesque and exciting. When first seen, Edmond Dantes (Jim Caviezel) is sweet, trusting and naive. Fernandez Mondegio (Guy Pearce) lusts after Edmond's fiancée, Mercedes (Dagmara Dominczyk), and engineers a plan to frame his friend for treason. The shattered Edmond is sentenced to a notorious island prison where he spends 13 years. With the help of another inmate, the Abbe Faria (Richard Harris), he daringly escapes prison, reinvents himself as the mysterious Count of Monte Cristo and extracts revenge from his surprised enemies. — P. Wuntch. (PG-13: violence, language, sensuality.) 2 hours. B

"CROSSROADS": Notable only as Britney Spears' acting debut. It's bad, but certainly not without merit as entertainment. Spears plays Lucy, high school valedictorian and goody two-shoes, who sets out on a cross-country road trip with two childhood friends, the witty kid (Zoe Saldana) and formerly pregnant Mimi (Taryn Manning, seemingly doomed to play trashy teens forever). The main goal of the trip seems to be to loosen up Lucy, a task that mostly falls to their hunky driver, an ex-con named Ben (Anson Mount) who looks a dreamy, but in appropriate, 30. — M. Pols. (PG-13: Sexual content, brief teen drinking.) 1 hour, 34 minutes. C-

"DRAGONFLY": This weirdly off-kilter romantic ghost story never finds that magical, love-that-transcends-death tone it is aiming for. Kevin Costner plays Joe Darrow, a Chicago emergency-room physician whose wife, Emily (Susanna Thompson), dies in the film's opening scenes when her bus is washed away in a Venezuelan mud slide. After the no-body funeral, the doctor is faced with evidence of supernatural visits. Is Emily (Susanna Thompson) trying to get in touch with him? Director Tom

OPENING TODAY

"HARRISON'S FLOWERS" (R) After a photojournalist is presumed dead in the middle of the brutal civil war in Yugoslavia, his wife (Andie MacDowell) sets off to find him.

"ICE AGE" (PG) A woolly mammoth and a sloth make friends at the beginning of the Ice Age in this animated movie for kids. Voiced by Ray Romano, Denis Leary and John Leguizamo.

"JUNG (WAR): IN THE LAND OF THE MUJAHEDDEEN" (NR) Documentary that follows a war correspondent and a surgeon as they travel through an Afghanistan destroyed by 20 years of war.

"THE MOST FERTILE MAN IN IRELAND" (NR)

Shadyac lets his film meander along, shocking us with cheap scares and tiny revelations while jamming way too many plot twists into its final act. — R. Moore. (PG-13: thematic material and mild sensuality.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. C-

"THE FELLOWSHIP OF THE RING": A soulful, passionate giant of a movie, one that will live long past 2001. New Zealand director Peter Jackson's "Heavenly Creatures" adaptation of the first third of J.R.R. Tolkien's epic "Lord of the Rings" enraptures us with its dramatic storytelling and visuals and leaves you reeling that there are filmmakers out there who have the guts to make a movie destined for vast commercial success that's also intelligent and ferociously heartfelt. Terrifying when it should be, moving when it should be, this holds true to Tolkien's vision. One of the best movies of the year. — M. Pols. (PG-13: epic battle sequences and scary images.) 2 hours, 58 minutes. A

"40 DAYS AND 40 NIGHTS": The most thoroughly entertaining naughty movie to come along yet this short year. Brokenhearted Matt (Josh Hartnett, exuding star quality amid nice comic timing) decides to give up sex for Lent to help himself recover from being dumped. Obstacles arise, including the arrival of the girl of his dreams (Shannyn Sossamon). The film is plagued by the conventions of a romantic comedy, but funny in a sweet, though extremely frank, way, thanks largely to director Michael Lehmann, who has a deft hand with the topic of sex. Decency mavens, skip this one. — M. Pols. (R: strong sexual content, nudity and language.) 1 hour, 38 minutes. B

"GOSFORD PARK": There are no tutus or tights in this comic murder mystery from director Robert Altman, but make no mistake, this is ballet on film. Every aspect, from its ultimate ensemble cast to the meticulous recreation of the staid England of years gone by, could have been treacherous, but instead it emerges triumphant, spinning together as ele-

Romantic comedy director

The leaders of a

SHOW ME (PG)

STATE PROPERTY

FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Titles and showtimes subject to change. Call theaters for information.

*Wheelchair Accessible

Showtimes for Friday March 15

Alameda Cinema
Act 1 and 2
2178 Center Street, Berkeley 510-843-3456
in the Bedroom (R) 6:30, 9:30
Monster's Ball (R) 7, 9:45

Albany Twin
1115 Solano Ave., Albany 510-843-3456
Amelie (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
Monsoon Wedding (R) 1, 4, 7, 10

California Theatre
2113 Kirtland St., Berkeley 510-843-3456
Theatre Closed for Earthquake Retrofit

Century 16 Bayfair Mall
350 Bay Area Mall, San Leandro 510-276-5894
40 Days and 40 Nights (R) 12:50, 3:05, 5:15, 7:25, 9:50
All About the Benjamins (R) 11:50, 12:45, 2:25, 3:10, 4:45, 5:45, 7:15, 8:10, 9:40, 10:35
Big Fat Liar (PG) 12:40, 2:50, 4:55
CROSSROADS (PG) 12:10, 2:40, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45

Dragonfly (PG-13) 7:10, 9:35
Ice Age (PG) 11:30, 12:30, 1:30, 2:35, 3:30, 4:30, 5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30, 9:30, 10:25
John Q (PG-13) 11:40, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20
Monster's Ball (R) 9:55
Resident Evil (R) 11:55, 1:10, 2:15, 3:25, 4:35, 5:40, 6:55, 8:05, 9:10, 10:15
Return to Never Land (G) 11:45, 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45
Showtime (PG-13) 12, 1, 2:20, 3:15, 4:40, 5:35, 7, 8, 9:15, 10:15
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 11:35, 12:35, 2, 2:55, 4:25, 5:20, 6:55, 7:50, 9:20, 10:10
We Were Soldiers (R) 1:05, 4, 7:05, 10

Century 25 Union City at Union Landing

32100 Alvarado Blvd., Union City 510-487-9593
40 Days and 40 Nights (R) 12:25, 2:45, 5, 7:25, 9:45, 12
All About the Benjamins (PG-13) 12:30, 3:50, 7:05, 9:55
All About the Benjamins (R) 11:30, 12:30, 2, 2:55, 4:50, 5:20, 7:45, 9:30, 10:10, 10:45, 12:05
Big Fat Liar (PG) 11:35, 1:50, 4:05, 6:15, 8:35, 10:45
Black Hawk Down (R) 7:35, 10:40
Dragonfly (PG-13) 11:50, 2:25, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05
Harrison's Flowers (R) 11:25, 2:20, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35

Am Sam (PG-13) 11:15, 2:15, 5:10, 7:55
Ice Age (PG) 11:15, 12, 12:45, 1:30, 2:15, 3, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:10, 7:10, 8:15, 9:15, 10, 10:15, 11:15, 12:15
John Q (PG-13) 11:55, 2:35, 5:20, 8:05, 10:45
Monsoon Wedding (R) 11:40, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:20
Queen of the Damned (R) 9:20, 11:40
Resident Evil (R) 11:30, 12:40, 2, 3:05, 4:25, 5:35, 7, 8, 9:10, 10:20, 11:55
Return to Never Land (G) 11:10, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:20
Showtime (PG-13) 11:45, 1, 1:55, 2:40, 3:25, 4:10, 4:55, 5:40, 6:25, 7:15, 8, 8:40, 9:35, 10:15, 10:50, 11:40
The Count of Monte Cristo (PG-13) 11:15
The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 12:10, 4:15, 8, 11:35
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 11:20, 12:05, 12:50, 1:40, 2:25, 3:10, 4, 4:45, 5:30, 6:20, 7:05, 7:50, 8:40, 9:25, 10:10, 11, 11:45
We Were Soldiers (R) 11:20, 1:20, 2:20, 4:20, 5:25, 7:25, 8:25, 10:35, 11:30

Chabot Cinema

2853 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley 510-582-2555
Ice Age (PG) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7, 9:15

Chabot Space & Science Center

1000 Skyline Blvd., Oakland 510-336-7330
Myriophytes of Egypt (Not Rated) 1, 7:30
The Living Sea (Not Rated) 11:30, 3:30, 8:30
To Be An Astronaut (Not Rated) 10:30

Elmwood 3

2565 College Ave., Berkeley 510-849-0530
Charlotte Gray (PG-13)
Kendall (Not Rated) 5:30, 7:15
Mudhead Drive (R) 9
Sex with Strangers (Not Rated) 5, 7, 9
The Man Who Wasn't There (R) 4:35, 9:25

Fine Arts Cinema

2451 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-848-1143
Contempt (Not Rated) 9:20
King of Hearts (Not Rated) 7:15

Renaissance Grand Lake Theatre

3320 Grand Avenue, Oakland 510-452-3556
All About the Benjamins (PG-13) 12:30, 3:30, 7:15, 9:45
Ice Age (PG) 12:15, 2:15, 4:15, 6, 7:45, 9:30
The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 12, 4, 8
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 11:45, 2, 4:30, 7, 9:15

Jack London Cinema

100 Washington, Oakland 510-433-1320
All About the Benjamins (R) 11:45, 2:15, 4:50, 7:20, 10
Ice Age (PG) 10:50, 11:30, 1, 1:40, 3:10, 3:50, 5:20, 6, 7:10, 9:10
John Q (PG-13) 11, 1:50, 4:35, 7:30, 10:20
Monster's Ball (R) 8:35, 10:45
Resident Evil (R) 11:20, 2:45, 5:30, 8, 10:30
Return to Never Land (G) 11:05, 1:05, 3:05, 5:05, 7
Showtime (PG-13) 12, 2:30, 5, 7:25, 8:10, 9:50, 10:35
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 11:35, 2, 4:25, 7:05, 9:30

•We Were Soldiers (R) 12:50, 4:05, 7:15, 10:25

Hayward 9
19901 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 510-785-8000
Ice Age (PG) 11, 11:50, 1:30, 2:30, 4:30, 5, 7, 7:30, 9:10, 9:40
in the Bedroom (R) 11:10, 1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:20
Resident Evil (R) 11, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10
Showtime (PG-13) 11:30, 12, 1, 45, 2:20, 4:10, 4:50, 7:10, 7:50, 9:20, 10
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 11:20, 12:10, 2, 2:40, 4:20, 5:10, 7, 8, 9:30, 10:10
We Were Soldiers (R) 12:20, 4, 7:15, 10:10

Naz 8 Cinemas

39400 Argonaut Way, Fremont 510-797-2000
Haan... Mainie Bhi Pyaar Kiya (Not Rated) 5, 7, 9, 11
Namaste (Not Rated) 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
Raz (Not Rated) 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12
Tamil Movie (Not Rated) 8, 11
Tumko Na Bhool Payenge (Not Rated) 5, 7, 9, 11

Renaissance Oaks Theatre

1075 Solano Ave., Berkeley 510-526-1836
40 Days and 40 Nights (R) 7
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone (PG) 6
Am Sam (PG-13) 9:45

Shattuck Theatre

4185 Piedmont Ave., Oakland 510-843-3456
Amelie (R) 1:30, 4, 6:30, 9
Gosford Park (R) 2, 5, 8
Kissing Jessica Stein (R) 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15

Shattuck Cinemas

2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-3456
All About the Benjamins (R) 12:55, 3:05, 5:15, 7:30, 10
Gosford Park (R) 1:05, 4, 6:55, 9:50
Harrison's Flowers (R) 1:10, 4, 7:05, 9:45
Iris (R) 1:20, 3:45, 6:15, 8:25
Italian for Beginners (R) 2:10, 4:30, 7, 9:20
Kissing Jessica Stein (R) 2:20, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30

United Artists Berkeley

2274 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 510-843-1487
All About the Benjamins (PG-13) 11:35, 2:50, 7:30, 10:25
Ice Age (PG) 11:05, 1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45
John Q (PG-13) 11:30, 2, 4:40, 7:35, 10
Showtime (PG-13) 11:25, 2:30, 5:45, 7:45, 10:15
The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 11, 2:45, 7, 10:30
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 11:15, 2:15, 4:50, 7:50, 10:45
We Were Soldiers (R) 11:45, 3, 7:10, 10:35

United Artists Emery Bay 10

6330 Chinshe, Emeryville 510-420-0107
All About the Benjamins (PG-13) 10:50, 1:45, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
All About the Benjamins (R) 11:10, 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50, 12:30
Ice Age (PG) 11, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8, 10:15
John Q (PG-13) 10:50, 1:30, 4:15, 7, 9:45
Resident Evil (R) 11:30, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10, 12:30
Showtime (PG-13) 11:40, 2:20, 5, 7:50, 10:20, 12:30
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 11:20, 2, 4:40, 7:20, 10, 12:30
We Were Soldiers (R) 12, 3:30, 7, 10:30

United Artists Hayward 6

24800 Hesperian, Hayward 510-786-3000
All About the Benjamins (R) 12:30, 2:45, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
Dragonfly (PG-13) 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:15
John Q (PG-13) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
Monster's Ball (R) 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 8, 10:30
Queen of the Damned (R) 10
Return to Never Land (G) 12:45, 2:40, 4:50, 7
State Property (R) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

Central Contra Costa

Renaissance Orinda Theatre
4 Orinda Theatre Sq., Orinda 925-544-9080
Gosford Park (R) 8:30, 9
Showtime (PG-13) 7:30, 9:45
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 7, 9:15

Renaissance Park Theatre

3519 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette 925-283-7997
Monsoon Wedding (R) 7, 9:30

Rheem Theatre

350 Park St., Moraga 925-988-3411
All About the Benjamins (PG-13) 4:30, 7:20, 9:50
Ice Age (PG) 5, 7:45, 9:35
in the Bedroom (R) 4:20, 7:10, 9:45
We Were Soldiers (R) 4:10, 7, 9:40

West Contra Costa

Century 16 Hilltop
3200 Klose Way, Richmond 510-758-2345
40 Days and 40 Nights (R) 12:10, 2:40, 5, 7:30, 9:55
All About the Benjamins (PG-13) 12:50, 4, 7:20, 10:15
All About the Benjamins (R) 11:30, 12:50, 1:55, 3:15, 4:20, 5:30, 7, 8, 9:45, 10:25
Big Fat Liar (PG) 11:30, 1:40, 3:50, 6, 8:10, 10:20
Dragonfly (PG-13) 11:40, 1:55, 4:25, 7:25, 9:50
Ice Age (PG) 11:25, 12, 12:45, 1:30, 2:15, 3, 3:40, 4:45, 5:15, 5:30, 6:55, 7:50, 8:15, 10
John Q (PG-13) 11:45, 2:25, 5:05, 8:05, 10:35
Resident Evil (R) 12:20, 2:45, 5:15, 7:35, 10:30

Return to Never Land (G) 12:35, 2:35, 4:35, 7
Showtime (PG-13) 11:35, 1, 2, 3:30, 4:30, 5:45, 7, 8:15, 9:05, 9:45, 10:35
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 11:25, 1:50, 4:15, 7:05, 7:45, 9:35, 10:20
We Were Soldiers (R) 12:30, 3:40, 7:10, 10:10

San Francisco

AMC Van Ness 14

1000 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 415-922-4262
40 Days and 40 Nights (R) 2:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:30
All About the Benjamins (PG-13) 1:45, 4:30, 7:45, 10:45
All About the Benjamins (R) 1:50, 4:25, 7:15, 9:45, 12:20
Big Fat Liar (PG) 1:10, 3:20, 5:40
Black Hawk Down (R) 4:05, 7:05, 10:25
Gosford Park (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:35, 10:35
Harrison's Flowers (R) 1:10, 4, 7, 9:45, 12:35
Am Sam (PG-13) 1:25, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20
Ice Age (PG) 12:30, 2:45, 5, 7:15, 9:30, 11:45
John Q (PG-13) 2, 2:25, 4:55, 10:50
Showtime (PG-13) 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 10, 12:30
The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring (PG-13) 1:05, 4:45, 8:30
The Royal Tenenbaums (R) 1, 7:55, 10:40
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 12:45, 3:10, 5:30, 8, 10:20, 12:30
We Were Soldiers (R) 1, 4, 7, 10, 10:15

AMC Kabuki 8

1881 Post Street, San Francisco 415-931-9800
40 Days and 40 Nights (R) 12:50, 3:10, 5:35, 8:05, 10:25
All About the Benjamins (PG-13) 1, 4, 7:10, 10:15
All About the Benjamins (R) 1:25, 4:20, 7, 9:35
Ice Age (PG) 12:30, 2:35, 5:20, 7:55, 10:10
Resident Evil (R) 1:45, 5:05, 8:15, 10:50
The Count of Monte Cristo (PG-13) 1:15, 4:30, 7:40, 10:35
The Time Machine (2002) (PG-13) 1:35, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
We Were Soldiers (R) 12:40, 4:10, 7:30, 10:40

Bridge Theatre

3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco 415-352-0818
Monsoon Wedding (R) 12:30, 2:40, 7:10, 9:45

Castro Theatre

429 Castro St., San Francisco 415-621-6120
Theatre closed for the day

Clay Theatre

2161 Fillmore Street, San Francisco 415-352-0810
Amelie (R) 1:20, 4:10, 7, 9:50

Embarcadero Center Cinema

1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco 415-352-0810
Iris (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:20
Italian for Beginners (R) 1, 4:30, 7:20, 9:40
Kissing Jessica Stein (R) 12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10
Monsoon Wedding (R) 12, 12:30, 2:30, 3:30, 5, 6:30, 7:30, 9:10, 10:10

Lumiere Theatre

1572 California St., San Francisco 415-352-0810
in the Bedroom (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30
Scratch (R) 12:30, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10
The Son's Room (R) 12:10, 2:25, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40

Opera Plaza Cinema

601 Van Ness Blvd., San Francisco 415-352-0810
Lantana (R) 1, 4, 7, 9:35
Last Orders (R) 1:10, 7:10
Pinero (R) 4:10, 9:40
Sex with Strangers (Not Rated) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:45
Trembling Before G-d (Not Rated) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 9:50

Reviews

PAGE C4

...deservedly so, Judi Dench ...ins Murdoch in her later ...her's begins to destroy ...nt mind, while Kate Winslet ...young and full of life. Jim ...is wonderful as the older ver- ...her husband, John Bayley, who ...the movie is based on ...ing John. Hugh Bonneville got left ...of the Oscar race, but only because ...et assume he's Broadbent with ...as much about love as it is ...and with acting like this, what ...nitive do you need to see this ...M. Pols. (R: Sexually, nudity, ...language) 1 hour, 30 minutes. A

MAN FOR BEGINNERS: Strangest ...the latest offering from ...the Danish film movement ...for being disturbing than for ...theory, introduces the concept of ...happiness to the movement. ...people take Italian lessons one ...in Copenhagen again, tenta- ...to gravitate toward each other. Not ...onal chick flick, though; it's got its ...of depressing elements, such ...and alcohol syn- ...and sexual dysfunction, buried ...from love and comedy. And ...a Dogma movie: murky ...But it's still got the heart to ...through the chill of winter. — M. ...language and some sexuality.) ...30 minutes. A-

Q & A: John Q. "is so earnest and ...ing and so stocked with talent, ...can't forget the sheer, ponderous ...s of its script. Yet once you ...the theater and get away from the ...benign influence of lead

...Washington, you realize your ...has been horribly hijacked. As ...Quincy Archibald, Washington is ...husband and father barely making ...travels. When he can't afford to pay ...e 6-year-old son's heart transplant, ...the hospital emergency room. A ...chick-riden script squeals ...the cast (Washington, Robert ...James Woods, Anne Heche), and ...moral drama of a man ...others' lives to save his child, ...the medical system (PG-13 ...America. — V. Chan, (PG-13 ...language, intense thematic ele- ...1 hour, 58 minutes. C

JESSICA STEIN: Here's ...romantic comedy ...single women who seek each ...at after growing tired of dating ...degrading, warm and funny — of ...out-loud hilarious. Now for the ...at, after providing such insight in ...a charming way, its ending is just ...and safe. Jennifer Westfield and ...Jensen are charming ac- ...ment, making you forget the ...ing. — C. Lemire (R: sexual ...and language) 1 hour, 36 min- ...

LANA: The discovery of a corpse ...heme for this movie, though it is ...tance a police thriller as it is a ...psychological investigation into ...s and difficulties of marriage, ...houses on four couples, and ...top-lined by Anthony La- ...Jeffrey Rush and Barbara Her- ...Doesn't lack for the intensity and ...to make its story convincing. All ...e figure in the story attached ...traps. Although we eventually ...information we need, little of it ...to us directly. Rather, "Lantana" ...s knowledge slowly and ...This remarkably thoughtful ...es it clear not only how hard ...ome by any emotional comfort in ...t, but more importantly, why we ...t up on the struggle. — K. Tu- ...language and sexuality.) 2 hours.

ST ORDERS: A gently reflective ...th that's ostensibly about death, ...hops far more on the friendships ...relationships that make up a life. ...London butcher Jack (Michael ...and asks that his ashes be ...off the pier at a seaside resort. ...Helen Mirren) has her own ...for saying no, so his friends, ...ing Bob Hoskins, David Hem- ...on Courtenay, and Jack's son ...s) oblige. Along the way, ...remembered. Doesn't go be- ...book. Prize-winning novel it's ...t, but fine acting abounds. ...s. (R: sexuality and some lan- ...1 hour, 49 minutes. B

MAN WHO WASN'T THERE: ...and Joel Coen's chilly black-and- ...e language to film noir plays out like ...a talk, the kind of experimentation

artists indulge in once the bills are paid. Billy Bob Thornton is fascinating to watch as a late 1940s barber who makes the mistake of blackmailing his wife's lover (James Gandolfini) to get the capital to invest in a dry cleaning business. With its fantastically cool look and dry wit, this is distinctly Coen brothers fare, but if you compare it to their best work, it feels more like an itch the brothers needed to scratch than, say, a "Fargo."

Of course, with them, even an itch is going to be entertaining. — M. Pols. (R: a scene of violence.) 1 hour, 56 minutes. B

"MONSOON WEDDING": An accom- plished and entrancing blend of comedy and drama from director Mira Nair ("Mississippi Masala"). Over four days, a flustered Punjabi patriarch prepares for an arranged marriage between his only daughter and an engineer from Houston. Unfortunately the bride is still in love with her married lover, and her spinster cousin is about to drop a bombshell on the family. As thoroughly satisfying, subtle, steamy and balanced between serious and joyous as the best weddings ac- tually are. — M. Pols. (R: language, including some sex-related dialogue.) 1 hour, 54 minutes. A-

"MONSTER'S BALL": Loneliness hangs over the first half of director Marc Forster's movie like a sheet of rain: the loneliness of a single mother (Halle Berry), of a man going to the electric chair (Sean Combs) and a friendless racist who has just realized he has nothing to live for (Billy Bob Thornton). Berry and Thornton are both outstanding as a pair of unlikely lovers. A bleak and beautiful movie, and while the rain never stops, it does ease up, offering one of the most delicately redemptive stories we've seen since "Dead Man Walking." — M. Pols. (R: strong sexual content, language, violence.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. A

"MULHOLLAND DR.": At the end of this mind-trip, all you can do is laugh. David Lynch has once again led us on a merry dance through a minefield littered with freaks, apple-pie moments we can't trust, terrifying weirdoes and puzzling, possibly pointless scenes. A beautiful amnesiac and a cheery, innocent ingenue set out to solve a mystery. Then they become different people. Chances are it's all a dream, or at least half a dream. Makes "Memento" look easy to understand. Lynch probably won't win himself any new fans with this one, but old ones will enjoy this excursion into his creative mind. — M. Pols. (R: violence, language and some strong sexuality.) 2 hours, 26 minutes. B+

"PIÑERO": Benjamin Bratt resurrects the spirit of Puerto Rican playwright, poet and actor Miguel Piñero. Leon Icho, who directed and wrote the screenplay, has constructed a movie that is more montage than narrative as it flashes back and forth between color and black-and-white and jumps around in time. The screenplay is mercilessly free of cliché, and although Piñero fits the mold of a charismatic damned poet, the movie's mythmaking machinery doesn't go overboard. Even wit depicting Piñero's squandering of his own talent. Bratt's portrayal retains a layer of snarling craftiness. — S. Holden. (R: drug use, strong language, sexuality.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. B

"QUEEN OF THE DAMNED": Despite blood-splurping, a Goth rock score and even the chilling resurrection of Aaliyah as the title character, this third installment of Anne Rice's "Vampire Chronicles" seems curiously torpid. Except for the special effects (not impressive, but you could tell a computer with a lot of memory was used), the pallid story line and predictable emotional pulse take two dry-day video rental feel. Lestat (Stuart Townsend) awakens from a bored 200-year slumber to become a Goth rock star, firing his secretive brethren and awakening the Mother of All Vampires, who can rip out hearts and turn vampires into burnt toast. Much of the late Aaliyah's screen time is divided between walking sinuously and sinking her teeth into pulsating organs. This passionless "Queen" isn't worth burning an after-image of a sharp-toothed Aaliyah licking fake blood from her lips. — V. Chan. (R: violence, language, sexuality.) 1 hour, 41 minutes. C

"RETURN TO NEVER LAND": James M. Barrie, who died in 1937, never knew the London depicted in Disney's new animated sequel to his beloved "Peter Pan." The streets have been pockmarked by German bombs, and air-raid sirens wail. The original story's central character, Wendy, now is married with children of her own. Her serious-minded daughter, Jane, is whisked away to Never land, not by Peter Pan, but by the evil Captain Hook, who believes he has custody of

Peter's old chum Wendy. Was it right for Disney to tinker with Barrie's story? Maybe not. The most important question: Is it decent family entertainment? Yes. — V. Kulienski. (G) 1 hour, 12 minutes. C+

"THE ROYAL TENENBAUMS": There's such an ironic distance to director Wes Anderson's playful, highly stylized movie about a family of failed, alienated geniuses that it's like watching a cinematic version of the eccentric literary quarterly McSweeney's, something exquisitely crafted for maximum cleverness. What saves it from being gag-me precious is the fact that Anderson also has a tender heart to go along with his fetish for detail and eye for the absurd. Amid all the movie's mannerisms are some truisms about family that knock you for an unexpectedly emotional loop. All the per- manences are delightful, but Gene Hackman, as the Tenenbaums' rascal of a patriarch, is unforgettable. — M. Pols. (R: some language, sexuality/nuity and drug content.) 1 hour, 48 minutes. A-

"SCRATCH": Doug Pray's dense, exhilarating documentary portrays "scratching" — a musical technique that involves moving a record back and forth to create a unique sound — as a rapidly evolving, rather insular art form. Among the more than 15 DJs profiled is the Bay Area's DJ Qbert, a legend in the hip-hop subculture. As the movie tells it, scratch- ing is as competitive as rapping, which it preceded as a street party style. The film is a bit too conscientiously encyclopedic. For all the sonic excitement generated, you eventually long for a broader view of the subculture. — S. Holden. (R: abundant profanity.) 1 hour, 31 minutes. B

"SNOW DOGS": Miami dentist Ted Brooks (Cuba Gooding Jr.) finds out he was adopted when his biological mother, who piloted Alaskan sled dogs to cham- pionships, dies, and he inherits to the small town of Tokelita to inventory and sell her belongings — including her valuable pack of huskies. A gruff sled-dog racer named Thunder Jack (James Coburn) was one of his mother's chief competitors. He wants those dogs for himself, but Ted won't let him have them. With the Arctic Challenge coming up, Ted would rather learn to race them himself. "Snow Dogs" is lightweight and pre- dictable, and the dogs are just too cute, along with animated counterparts that are so expressive, they're spooky. — C. Lemire. (PG: mild crude humor.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. C

"THE SON'S ROOM": On the face of it this Italian film is quiet and contemplative — every bit as calm and serene as its leading character, psychiatrist Giovanni (Nanni Moretti), is thought to be by his sometimes none-too-calm patients. At the start, all seems well. Giovanni has a thriving career. While his patients speak of suicide and murder, Giovanni tends to his well-adjusted family — wife Paola (Laura Morante), daughter Irene (Jas- mine Trinca) and son Andrea (Giuseppe Sanfelice). Then one day the teen-age Andrea is killed in a diving accident, and familial harmony is extinguished. This is a story of a family's shared road to re- covery, or at least acceptance. Only the hardest-hearted viewer will be unmoved by the final frame of this Cannes prize- winner. — M. Wolf. (R: language and some sexuality.) 1 hour, 39 minutes. A-

"THE TIME MACHINE": This new adaptation of H.G. Wells' classic futuristic story is directed by Simon Wells, great- grandson to H.G. himself. Surely a direct descendant wouldn't soil the memory of either the book or George Pal's 1960 film, right? Well, yes and no. The story has been expanded to present a moti- vation for the Time Traveler's (Guy Pearce) journey, a romance that the elder Wells might have scoffed at, or at the very least been bored by. On the other hand, some cool elements have been added, includ- ing several clever bits of homage to Pal's film and special effects that reflect how far the technology has come since 1960. — M. Pols. (PG-13 for intense scenes of action violence.) 1 hour, 36 minutes. B-

"WE WERE SOLDIERS": A surprisingly old-fashioned Vietnam War movie dwelling on the heroism of the soldiers who fought the first major ground battle with the North Vietnamese in 1965. Mel Gibson is fine but not great as the thoughtful officer who leads them into battle. A lack of political context, too much schmaltz and overly graphic war violence unfortunately hold the film back, and it rings too often with the same sort of voice director Randall Wallace used in his chess script for "Pearl Harbor." M. Pols. (R: sustained scenes of graphic war violence and language.) 2 hours, 18 minutes. C

Mann

FROM PAGE C3

After what we've just experi- enced, it's going to be hard for anyone to ever tell me the Net hasn't dramatically improved our lives. It's given — and is still giving — us peace of mind we wouldn't otherwise have had about this baby. Seeing is believing, and seeing it live is even better. The Net provides a visual connectedness for to- day's dispersed families that was impossible until recently.

MEDIA NOTES: Speaking of using computers for loved ones, I've just received a won- derful CD-ROM from long-time KCBS morning man Al Hart. The disc lovingly documents in photos the life of his late wife Sally (who recently passed away from ALS), with pictures going back to Sally's child- hood. The voice-over, of course, was provided by her loving husband. What a won- derful tribute and keepsake! Hart, by the way, writes that he hopes to be doing more broad- casting soon to help get over his loss of Sally. That's great news: Walnut Creek resident Al is a local treasure.

Are viewers getting tired of increasingly "lite" local news- casts? The February Nielsen rat- ings sweeps results are raising eyebrows in local TV news- rooms: In February, a shocking 23 local newscasts showed less — while non-news shows like

"Oprah" went up in the ratings. ... Long-time local TV weather- man Steve Newman (KRON, KPIX, KGO) has decided to stick with being a long-haul trucker after briefly returning to local television three months ago to do weekend forecasting on KPIX. The Santa Rosa- based Newman called me re- cently from the road to tell me how much he's enjoying the new satellite radio he installed in his big rig: "I'm always look- ing for NPR stations," he said from Illinois, "and right now, I'm listening to Michael Krasny's show on KQED-FM. Bill, I love this technology!" Newman also called from his truck as he drove through Okla- homa last week to tell me about this Page One headline in the Stillwater News-Press: "Students Promise Warm Re- ception For Jesus." Students in a Christian school there are stockpiling goodies like Kool- Aid and cookies in case of a Second Coming.

Speaking of veteran local weathermen, 29-year former KGO-TV forecaster Pete Giddings and Reno's KOLQ-TV have parted company. KOLQ general manager Tim Perry says an impasse over Giddings' new contract couldn't be re- solved, that "negotiations fell apart suddenly." Giddings once made \$675,000 at Channel 7, which dumped him in January, 1999, to bring in Spencer Christian.

A loss to local journalism:

Talented Chronicle TV critic John Carman's retirement, first reported here recently. Car- man's last piece this week was, like its writer, a class act.

A mild disappointment: NBC's "Matthew Shepard Story" airing Saturday night on KNTV. I figured that with Sam Waterston and Stockard Chan- ning co-starring, how could this story about the infamous 1999 Wyoming hate crime movie's script is flat and unins- pired. Plus, the decision to use the gay teen's savage beating at the very top of tomorrow's film feels — to me, anyway — like the audience is being am- bushed.

Quite a pleasant surprise: Fox's funny and imaginative new comedy, "Andy Richter Controls the Audience," debut- ing on KTVU Tuesday night. It's the best new sitcom of the year, and a rarity — a work- place comedy that actually works.

Finally this week, speaking of Fox, TV newsroom trade pa- per Shoptalk says its "Celebrity Boxing" fiasco featuring Paula Jones duking it out with Tonya Harding almost didn't happen. "Shoptalk" contributor Alan Ray jokes: "Producers said Fox wasn't their first choice. For some reason, PBS turned the concept down."

(Questions? Comments? E-mail Bill at Newsmann@sonic.net.)

Events

FROM PAGE C3

THE STARRY PLOUGH — "The Berkeley Poetry Slough — Wednesday, 8:30 p.m. Poets should arrive at 7:30 p.m. to sign up. The first Wednesday of the month is "Chicken Grease" hosted by Nazelah Jamison and Karen Ladson with spinning by DJ Funklor; all other Wednes- days are "The Berkeley Slam" hosted by Charles Eliik and dani eurynome with music by Three Blind Mice. For ages 21 and over after 10 p.m. \$5. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 435-1665.

MARCUS BOOKSTORES — ■ Lani Guinier, March 16, 6:30 p.m. The author talks about her new book "The Miner's Canary," a warning that ignoring racial tensions is perilous. ■ Michael Datcher, March 22, 6:30 p.m. The author pre- sents a narrative that charts the dangerous social and racial minefield Black American men cross every day in "Raising Fences: A Black Man's Love Story." Free. 3900 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Oakland. (510) 652-2344.

GOLDEN GATE GEO- GRAPHIC SOCIETY TRAVEL FILM SERIES — March 23, "China and The Gorges." A film about the Three Gorges on the Yangtze River and the Three Lesser Gorges, all of which are about to be sub- merged in a lake created by a huge dam. Other features in- clude Shanghai, Nanjing, the seaport of Qingdao, Xi-An and the buried army, Beijing, the Great Wall, Wuhan, Yichang and Wanxian, another future dam victim. Produced and pre- sented in person by Raphael and Jocelyn Green. March 23, 2 p.m. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. \$9 general; \$4.50 youths age 14 and under. (800) 247-GGGS.

INTERNATIONAL MAR- ITIME CENTER — "St. Patrick's Lunch," March 15, 11 a.m. The Seafarers Club will serve traditional corned beef and cabbage, hold a drawing for lunch with the mission's se- nior chaplain Father Paul Devine and host live music. Proceeds will benefit the mis- sion's nonprofit multi-faith ministry to tankers and tugs in Bay Area ports. 15. Seafarers Club, Berth 40, 4001 Seventh St., Oakland. (510) 839-2226.

CALIFORNIA SHAKE- SPEARE FESTIVAL ANNUAL GALA — March 23, 6 p.m. The event includes a champagne re- ception, dinner, live and silent auctions, dancing and more. Proceeds benefit the Annual Fund and the Theater's Artistic Learning Initiative. \$175 to \$250. Rotunda Building, 300 Frank Ogawa Plaza, Oakland. (510) 548-3422 ext. 125.

PARAMOUNT THEATRE — "Academy Gala," March 24, 3:30 p.m. Arrive to gala red carpet treatment. Once inside the Grand Foyer "See-and-be- Scene" while dining on a sump- tuous buffet of film-themed dishes by East Bay restaurants

and caterers. Shortly before 5 p.m., take your seat in the theater and enjoy a concert by the Paramount's mighty Wurli- tzer. Then it is Awards time. Watch the 74th Annual Academy Awards on the theater's his- toric big screen. Attend the "Rodeo Drive Boutique" a chic silent auction. Black tie or "Hollywood festive" attire pre- ferred. A benefit for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. \$80. Para- mount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 267-9699 or www.academygala.com

Dance
DIMENSIONS DANCE THEATER — "The Shadows of Our Ancestors Mudzimu," March 23 and March 24. Choreographed by Dimensions' artistic director Deborah Vaughan, the evening-long work embraces the magical, the mystical and the historical aspects of the African experience. The two-part piece was inspired by the troupe's artistic exchange in Zimbabwe. \$20 general; \$15 seniors and stu- dents. Saturday, 8 p.m.; Sun- day, 3 p.m. Alice Arts Theater, 1428 Alice St., Oakland. (510) 465-3363.

EAGLES HALL ZYDECO CAJUN DANCES — Dance les- son, 8 p.m.; concert and dance, 9 p.m. ■ Tom Rigney and Flam- beau, March 15. The 4th An- nual Cajun-Celtic Dance Night. ■ Zydeco Flames, March 22. 2305 Alameda Ave., Alameda. (415) 285-6285 or ddeismone.home.mindspring.com/Eagles/content-eagles.html

THE 17TH ANNUAL JEW- ISH MUSIC FESTIVAL — "Soles on Fire: Community Klezmer Dance Party," March 24, 2 p.m. The final event in the month-long festival. \$16

general; \$14 seniors and stu- dents; \$10 children age 7 to 12. International House, University of California, 2299 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley. (925) 866-9559 or www.bjcc.org

LA PENA CULTURAL CEN- TER — Mazacote, March 23, 8:15 p.m. Salsa dance class and dancing afterward. \$13. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 849-2568 or www.lapena.org

THE STARRY PLOUGH PUB — ■ "Dance Class & Ceili," Mondays, 7 p.m. Traditional Irish music and dance. ■ "The Starry Session," Sundays, 8 p.m. Irish tradi- tional music and song led by Shay Black. Sliding scale. For age 21 and over. Dance lesson at 7 p.m.; music at 9 p.m. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 841-2082.

Comedy
JULIA MORGAN THEATRE — Iranian.com New Year's Show, March 16, 8 p.m. An evening of English-Persian comedy to celebrate Norooz, the Iranian New Year. \$20 gen- eral; \$15 students and children under age 12. 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. (925) 798-1300.

KIMBALL'S EAST — "Live Comedy," Thursdays, 7 p.m. \$10 cover. Emerybay Public Market, 5800 Shellmound St., Emeryville. (510) 658-2555, (510) 762-BASS or www.kimballs.com

PARAMOUNT THEATRE — 2002 Bay Area Black Comedy Competition Finals, March 16, 8 p.m. \$35.50 to \$45. 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (415) 421-8497.

See EVENTS, Page C6

Tucker

PAGE C3

...symphony Jones" tells ...ary of a young girl trying ...her place in a world, a ...where, as she says, ...anyone is just like me." As ...torney travels through ...ent lands on her search, ...forced to reexamine her ...eas about tolerance and ...ance.

And here's the neat part: ...ers of the audience will ...the opportunity to help ...tomy along the way, ...ing this an educational, as ...entertaining, experi-

...production, directed by ...Correa, features ...mie Cunha, Beth Dono- ...and Tessaly Lerner. It ...place on the Rep's Thrust ...2025 Addison St., Berke- ...recommended for ages five ...

...mission is free. No tickets ...sary.

...more information, in- ...ooking information ...e school tour, which ...tough March 30, call ...2478.

BOOK WHO'S STIRRING:

Good news for friends and ad- mirers of Pinole Community Players. The company — which has been off the boards for quite a spell while remodeling work goes on at the Tennent Avenue playhouse — is show- ing signs of recovery and is ready to start taking nourish- ment.

And no pallid chicken-soup-and-soda-crackers bland diet for the coming-out production.

No siree. You're reading it here: Auditions calls are out for "Guys and Dolls." After 51-plus years, the show is still a sassy, robust and irreverent love song about New York lowlife. Go for it gang!

Auditions are set for 7 p.m. April 9 and 10 at the Pinole City Hall Administration Of- fices, 2131 Pear St., Pinole. Dave Clark is directing.

Tentative performance dates are June 21 through July 20. That could change, depending on completion of the remodel- ing. Call 510-223-3598.

CALLING ANGELIC VOICES: Masquers Playhouse will hold auditions at 7 p.m. on April 1 and 2 for "City of An- gels," directed by Linda Ellinwood. The book is by Larry Gelbart (you probably

recognize the name from the credits on "M*A*S*H"), with music by Cy Coleman and lyrics by David Zippel.


Ellinwood is looking for a total of nine men and six women. Five of the men and four of the women (20s-50s) should have wide vocal ranges for an intricate, chromatic jazzy score. A SATB quartet (soprano-alto-tenor-bass) also requires close harmonies and tight ensemble. Two non- singing roles for men.

Bring appropriate music in your key. An accompanist will be provided.

Playing dates are Fridays and Saturdays nights from June 7 through July 20, with an additional five Thursdays and four Sunday matinees to keep you jumping.

You can call the director for more information at 510-652-6456.

Send items of interest to Jack Tucker at 4301 Lakeside Drive, Richmond, CA 94806; fax to 510-262-2776; e-mail to jtucker@cctimes.com, or call 510-262-2768. Include a contact name and number.



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Events

FROM PAGE C5

Classical Music

AMERICAN BACH SOLOISTS — "Couperin's Music for Tenebrae," March 22, 8 p.m. Guest artists: Derek Lee Ragin and Daniel Gundlach, countertenors. A performance of "Trois Lecons de Tenebrae." \$20 to \$37. First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. (415) 621-7900.

BAROQUE CHORAL GUILD — "Flemish Masters," March 17, 7:30 p.m. Sanford Dole directs a program of works by Josquin, Lassus and Sweelinck, as well as works from the Netherlands. Preview lectures begin half an hour before the performance. \$20 general; \$15 seniors and students. First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way, Berkeley. (408) 733-8110.

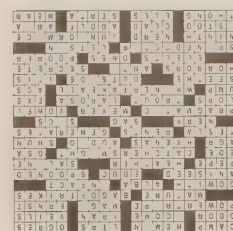
BERKELEY RICHMOND JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER —

■ "The 17th Annual Jewish Music Festival," through March 24. A festival of Jewish world music.

■ "New Yiddish Songs for the 21st Century," March 17, 3 p.m. In the Roda Theatre, 2015 Addison St. \$22 general; \$20 seniors and students.

■ Kitka and Davka, March 23, 8 p.m. In the Roda Theatre, 2015 Addison St. \$24 general; \$22 seniors and students.

■ "Soles on Fire: Community Klezmer Dance Party," March 24, 2 p.m. At International House, 2299 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley. \$16 general; \$14 seniors and students; \$10 children ages 7 to 12. Berkeley. (925) 866-9559 or www.brjcc.org



CAL PERFORMANCES — ■ "Song of Songs," March 16, 8 p.m. A performance of Jorge Liderman's musical setting of Chana Bloch and Ariel Bloch's recent translation of the original Hebrew text. In Hertz Hall, College Avenue and Bancroft Way. \$32.

■ Gyuto Monks, March 16, 8 p.m. A performance of multi-phonetic chanting offering a glimpse of the spiritual practices of Tantric Tibetan Buddhism. In Zellerbach Hall, Bancroft Way and Telegraph Avenue. \$24 to \$36.

■ The Tallis Scholars, Peter Phillips directing, March 23, 8 p.m. A program of Renaissance sacred choral music by Palestrina, Josquin des Pres, Jaquet of Mantua, and Crecquillon. At the First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way. \$34.

■ Andras Schiff, piano, March 24, 3 p.m. A program of works by Beethoven, Janacek and Schumann. In Zellerbach Hall, Bancroft Way and Telegraph Avenue. \$28 to \$48.

■ Richard Goode, piano, and Randall Scarlata, baritone, March 24, 8 p.m. A program of works by Mozart, Schubert, Debussy and Schumann. In Hertz Hall, College Avenue and Bancroft Way. \$28 to \$48. UC Berkeley. (510) 642-9988.

THE CROWDEN SCHOOLS "SUNDAYS AT FOUR" — Joan Jeanrenaud, cello, March 17, 4 p.m. A program of works by Philip Glass, Yoko Ono and other new works. Pre-Concert talk, 3:15 p.m. \$10 general; free youths under age 18. 1475 Rose St., Berkeley. (510) 559-6910.

FOUR SEASONS CONCERTS — The Miami String Quartet, March 23, 7:30 p.m. A program of works by Beethoven, Bartok and Smetana. \$25 to \$35. Scottish Rite Auditorium, 1547 Lakeside Drive, Oakland. (510) 451-0775 or www.fourseasonsconcerts.com

GRADUATE THEOLOGICAL UNION — "Piano Compositions from East and West," March 16, 7:30 p.m. With pianist J.Y. Song. A benefit concert for the Pacific School of Religion's PANA Institute. \$30 general; \$20 students. Concert Hall, Mills College, 5000

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

FOR THESE I LONG

By NELSON HARDY/EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS		DOWN	
1 Some amateur comedy	54 Fed property manager	103 People	13 Exhibits
5 Encircle	55 Farmer's field	106 Relatively cheery	14 Cold comfort?
10 P.O. boxful	56 Noised scavengers	107 Chiropractor?	15 "Iron is its middle name" slogan
14 "Fee, fi, fo, fum" speakers	57 Speaker's output	111 Admits	16 Where to see a camel
19 A strong one may be found in a gym	58 Blackball	113 Beethoven's "Choral" Symphony	17 Further
20 "to bury Caesar ..."	59 Edison contemporary	114 Doofus	18 Only risers?
21 Turkey toucher	61 Has a flat	115 Easy cats' prey?	24 Size up
22 Harem accessories	63 Produces	119 Playground retort	28 Justice Ruth
25 Adoring ones	65 Toy ball material	120 Decent	29 They click on the dance floor
26 "Nimrod" director	67 Fall down	121 von Baeyer, Nobel-winning chemist	30 Watch in disbelief
27 Flower	69 Sets the dogs (on)	122 Part of a libretto	31 Uplight
28 Heavy load for Santa?	70 Not flaky	123 Attention-getting beachwear	32 Careless car wash employee?
30 Accompany	75 1968 gold-medal swimmer Debbie	124 Some bends	34 Commands
33 "Dark Angel" star Jessica	79 One of five-and-a-half	125 Simmons competitor	37 Inhibit
35 Actually	82 Works on a hedgerow	126 Around	39 "Major" animal
36 Liqueur flavoring	83 One may be caught on the fly		41 Person having scary dreams?
38 Cabinet dept.	85 "Domani" singer, 1955		42 Result
40 Served, as soup	87 Raver to the English Channel		43 list
44 Classic French film "Le Moko"	88 Person at home		46 Teen spots
45 Moorland shrub	89 Successful frat's motto?		47 Comparative word
48 Like tears	91 Coolers, for short		50 Tickle
49 Dutch city NW of Arnhem	92 Do a slow burn		51 Pass
50 Yoga's strength?	94 Not on staff		52 Suffix with chlor-
	95 Suffix with sinus		53 Pink lady ingredi-
	96 "Oh, no!"		58 Name/New Hampshire river
	98 Leaning against		60 Endurance
	99 Cache		62 Dooley Wilson's role in
	101 Provides with an office		74 Shark's need
			76 Talks a blue streak
			77 "... saw Elba"
			78 Transportation network
			79 One may carry a sock?
			80 Fire
			81 Like a certain evil
			84 1982 Disney film
			86 Convertible
			89 All out
			90 Coach
			93 Battle site of December 26, 1776
			95 Tough guy
			98 Like stars
			100 (vocals) name
			102 Immature response
			104 Duck
			105 Mut in a sentence perhaps
			107 H-v-y
			108 "Bakewell"

MacArthur Blvd., Oakland. (510) 849-8244.

MUSIC SOURCES — "Bach Birthday Party," March 17. Three mini-concerts to celebrate the birthday and music of Johann Sebastian Bach. Refreshments available in the History Garden following the performances.

■ 1 p.m.: David Cates, harpsichord.

■ 2:15 p.m.: Violent Grgich, harpsichord, and Colin Shipman, viola da gamba.

■ 3:30 p.m.: Sheli Nan, harpsichord. \$18 general; \$15 seniors and students. 1000 The Alameda, Berkeley. (510) 528-1685.

NEW CENTURY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA — "On the Road," March 21, 8 p.m. A program of works by Poulenc as well as all 17 songs from the

Beatles' "Abbey Road." The concert is part of the Orchestra's 10th anniversary season. Pre-Concert Lecture by Francis Pumer, a colleague in both music and video production of Paul McCartney's. \$25 to \$30. St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. (415) 392-4400 or www.ncco.org

OAKLAND EAST BAY SYMPHONY — "Altered States," Patrick Summers conducting, March 15, 8 p.m. A program of works by Corigliano, Wagner, Perla and Dvorak. \$15 to \$55. Paramount Theatre, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 625-8497 or www.oebso.org

SAN FRANCISCO CHAMBER SINGERS CONCERTS — "News from the Old Country," March 23, 7 p.m. Director Robert Geary leads a program

of old and new works from the continent of Europe and South America. \$25 general; \$15 students. Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley, 1 Lawson

Road, Kensington. (415) 3352 or www.sfchambersingers.org

See EVENTS, Page

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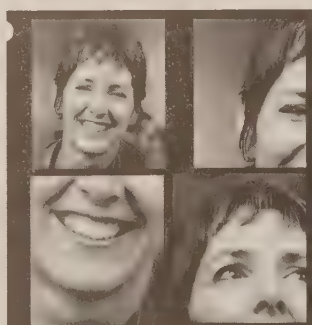
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Co-Founder, Wired Magazine

ents

PAGE C6

FRANCISCO EARLY SOCIETY — Arcangeli Strings, March 16, 8 p.m. Program of works by unusual resettlings. 222 St. John's Presbytery, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. (510) 528-1725

WOMEN IN MUSIC! — 16, 7 p.m. Jadine Louie of the San Francisco Gay Freedom Band in a program of works composed by women, including Jennifer Higdon, Louie, and Tracey Rush. Paul Lutheran Church, 1000 St. Oakland. 54-0402 or www.jonsim-

Music —

KENAZ — "Ring Ding," March 15, 9 p.m. Peter Rowan, Bluegrass and clogging. Ladin at 8 p.m. A of Old Time and Appalachian music. 15.

Delco Flames, March 16, 8 p.m. \$11.

Berkeley High School Ensemble, March 17, 7 p.m. general; \$6 seniors and students.

Reggae Nation with Hur- libert and Majestic, March 19, 10 p.m. \$5.

Swine Piquante, DP and Riders, March 20, 8 p.m. There will be a 7:30 p.m. session. \$8.

Careful Dead DJ Night, March 21, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Musical Dave. \$5.

Native Elements, Dub and March 22, 9:30 p.m.

the 4th Annual "Stomp Corpses," March 23, 8 p.m. the Gary Gates Band, the Xions, The Shut-Ins. A at the Bay Area Coal- ity Headwaters. \$8 to \$20.

Barro Nuevo, March 24, 8 p.m. A CD Release 100. 1317 San Pablo

Ave., Berkeley. (510) 525-5054 or www.ashkenaz.com

BERKELEY COMMUNITY THEATRE — Angie Stone, March 22, 8 p.m. With Kenny Lattimore. \$35 to \$47.50. 1930 Allston Way, Berkeley. (888) 963-9900 or (510) 762-2277.

BLAKE'S ON TELEGRAPH

- King Harvest, First Circle, March 15. \$5.
- An Evening with Omaya, March 16. \$7.
- The Lost Coast Band, The Real, March 17. \$3.
- All Star Jam featuring The Steve Gannon Band and Mz. Dee, March 18. \$4.
- Mind Go Flip, RLT, March 19. \$3.
- Hebro, March 20. \$3.
- Electronica with Ascension, March 21. \$5.
- Shady Lady, View From Here, March 22. \$6.
- Mystic Roots, LZ and Ezell Funkstaz, March 23. \$5.
- Passenger, The Shreep, March 24. \$3. For ages 18 and up. Music at 9:30 p.m. 2367 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. (510) 848-0886.

CATO'S ALE HOUSE

- The Saul Kaye Quartet, March 20.
- The Lost Coast Jazz Trio, March 24. Free. Shows at 6 p.m. 3891 Piedmont Ave., Oakland. (510) 655-3349 or www.mrcato.com

THE 23RD ANNUAL COMMUNITY CONCERT SERIES

- Golden Bough, March 15, 8 p.m. A St. Patrick's Day program. At Mt. Diablo Unitarian Church, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek.
- Chabot Panhandlers, March 23, 8 p.m. A Big Steel Drum Orchestra. At Orinda Library Auditorium, 24 Orinda Way, Orinda. \$18 to \$20 general; \$10 youths under age 18. (925) 943-SHOW.

DOTHA'S JUKE JOINT — Carlos Zalcita and His Band, March 15, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.

With vocalist Ella Pennwell. Reservations suggested. \$12. Jack London Square, The Everett and Jones Barbeque, 126 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 663-7668.

DOWNTOWN

- Aaron Greenblatt, piano, Tuesdays.
- Dave Mathews, piano, Wednesdays.
- Macy Blackman, piano, Thursdays. 2102 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 649-3810.

FELLOWSHIP CAFE — Eliot Kenin, March 15, 7:30 p.m. An evening of poetry, music and spoken word with the folk singer and musician. Sponsored by the Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists. \$5 to \$10. 1924 Cedar St., Berkeley. (510) 540-0898.

FREIGHT AND SALVAGE

- David Maloney, March 15. A presentation of "The Great Blight," a one-act folk opera exploring Irish history. \$16.50 to \$17.50.
- The Black Brothers, March 16. A St. Patrick's Day celebration with Ireland's First Family of Song. \$17.50 to \$18.50.
- Tom Russell, Andrew Hardin, March 17. \$15.50 to \$16.50.
- The Okros Ensemble, March 19. \$16.50 to \$17.50.
- The Hot Club of Cowtown, March 20. \$16.50 to \$17.50.
- Tish Hinojosa, Karen Abrahams, March 21. \$16.50 to \$17.50.
- Marley's Ghost, March 22. \$16.50 to \$17.50.
- "An Evening Honoring Hazel Dickens," March 23, 8 p.m. With Hazel Dickens and Dudley Connell, Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum, Kate Brislin and Jody Stecher, The Kathy Kallick Band, and The Bluegrass Intentions. At St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave. \$18.50 to \$19.50.
- Teresa Trull and Barbara Higbie, March 24. \$17.50 to \$18.50. Music starts at 8 p.m.

1111 Addison St., Berkeley. (510) 548-1761 or (510) 762-BASS or www.freightandsalvage.org

KIMBALLS EAST

- Brothers Johnson, March 15 and March 16, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. \$28.
- Brothers Johnson, March 17, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. \$28.
- Earthquake, March 24, March 25, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. \$28.
- Earthquake, March 27, 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. \$28. Call for unlisted prices. 6005 Shellmond St., Emeryville. (510) 762-BASS or www.kimballs.com

LA PENNA CULTURAL CENTER

- Collective Soul, March 16, 8 p.m. Featuring Felonious XRoads, Bamuthi, DJ Treat.U.Nice. The Best of Bay Hip-hop. \$8 to \$10.
- Domingo de Rumba, March 17, 3:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. In the Cafe. Free.
- Diem Jones and Black Fish Jazz, March 17, 4 p.m. A CD release party. \$8 for performance only; \$15 includes performance and a copy of the CD. (510) 465-1727 or www.su-fiwarrior.com
- Duo Guardabarranco, March 22, 8 p.m. \$18 to \$20.
- Mazacote, March 23, 9:30 p.m. A salsa dance class begins at 8:15 pm. \$13 for class and dance; \$10 for dance only.
- Melanie DeMoro and Gwen Avery in Concert, March 24, 7 p.m. \$14 to \$16. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 849-2568 or www.lapena.org

MAHEA UCHIYAMA CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL DANCE

— Mbira Concert, March 16, 8 p.m. With Forward Kwenda and Erica Azim. In Zimbabwe, Kwenda is considered the "Coltrane of mbira." \$12 to \$15. 729 Heinz Ave., Berkeley. (510) 845-2605.

924 GILMAN ST.

— 90 Day Men, One Line Drawing, Division Day, The Reputation, Sloe, March 15.

■ Gilman Short Film Festival, March 16. Movies and food only.

■ Atom and His Package, Plus Ones, AM/FM, Jerme Spew, Contender, March 23. \$5. Music at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 924 Gilman St., Berkeley. (510) 525-9926.

PARAMOUNT THEATER — The Pat Metheny Group, March 22, 8 p.m. \$35 to \$75. 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 465-6400 or (510) 625-TIXS or (925) 685-TIXS or (415) 421-TIXS or www.cc.com

THE STARRY PLOUGH PUB

- The Moore Brothers, March 15. \$6.
- "St. Patrick's Celtic Melt-down," March 16. With Blue on Green. Green Man Gruvin. \$5.
- St. Patty's Day Celebration, March 17, 6 p.m. With Chameleon, Irish dancers and bagpiper, and corned beef and cabbage. \$10.
- Knife in the Water, The Mendoza Line, The Len Brown Society, March 21. 9:30 p.m. \$5.
- Garrin Benfield, Tremolo, Matt Easton, March 22, 9:30 p.m. \$6.
- Love Kills Love, EDNA, Mojo Apostles, March 23, 9:30 p.m. \$5.
- "The Starry Irish Session," Sunday, 8 p.m. Irish traditional music and song led by Shay Black. Sliding scale.
- "Dance Class and Ceili," Monday, 7 p.m. Traditional Irish music and dance.
- "Poetry Slam with Charles Elik," Wednesday, 8:30 p.m. \$5. For ages 21 and over unless otherwise noted. Sunday and Wednesday, 8 p.m.; Thursday, Friday and Saturday, 9:30 p.m.

unless otherwise noted. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 841-2082.

THE STORK CLUB

- Angry Amputees, FEVER Pitch, Amocorps, Monster Squad, March 15, 9 p.m. \$5.
- Slender, Blanket, Maxwell Horse, March 16, 10 p.m. \$5.
- Tourettes Without Regrets, March 19, 8 p.m. \$5.
- Downshift, Macrophage, Bullethead, March 20, 9 p.m. \$5.
- Baby Carrot, Rally Boy, Henry Miller Sextet, March 21, 10 p.m. \$5.
- The RumDiary, Continental, Rubymar, Collaps, March 22, 9 p.m. \$6.
- The Get-Go, Bitesize, Mas Melo, March 23, 10 p.m. \$5. All shows for age 21 and over. 2330 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. (510) 444-6174 or www.daniland.com/stork

MUSIC AT TRADER VIC'S EMERYVILLE

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See EVENTS, Page C9

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DS.....	Discover Card	\$555.....	\$20+
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CA.....	Checks accepted	W.....	Wheelchair access

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EVENTS

PAGE C7

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FROM HOME:
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Hazel Dickens: It's Hard
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Song," March 21, 7 p.m. The film on the bluegrass pioneer will be accompanied by appearances by Dickens herself plus filmmaker Mimi Pickering and folklorist/author Archie Green. At the Pacific Film Archive Theater, Bancroft Way at Bowditch Street, Berkeley. \$7 per person. (510) 642-1412.

■ "An Evening Honoring Hazel Dickens," March 23, 8 p.m. With Hazel Dickens and Dudley Connell, Laurie Lewis and Tom Rozum, Kate Brislén and Jody Stecher, The Kathy Kallick Band, and The Blue-

grass Intentions. At St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley, (510) 548-1761. \$18.50 to \$19.50. www.freightandsalvage.org

YOSHIS —

■ The Michael Brecker Quartet, through March 17. \$20 to \$24; Sunday matinee, \$5 child; \$10 adult with one child; \$20 general.

■ The UC Jazz Big Band and Combo, March 18. \$10.

■ The John Scofield Band, March 19 through March 24. \$18 to \$22; Sunday matinee,

\$5 child; \$10 adult with one child; \$18 general. Shows are Tuesday through Saturday, 8 p.m. and 10 p.m.; Sunday, 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 510 Embarcadero West, Oakland. (510) 238-9200 or www.yoshis.com or www.tickets.com

Stage

AAURORA THEATRE — "Knock Knock," by Jules Feiffer, through April 14. This Tony-nominated comedy is about two retirees whose philo-

sophical arguments are interrupted by a series of strange visitors, including Joan of Arc.

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See EVENTS, Page C10

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SENIOR LIVING

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Recreation

Diverse recreational opportunities abound at most senior centers. Designed to meet the interests of the communities they serve, they encompass sports such as golf, tennis, bowling, and hiking; ballroom dance; the arts; card and table games; woodworking; travel; special events and parties; to name a few.

Health Education

Health maintenance services offered are often in conjunction with local hospitals, HMOs and clinics.

Education & Enrichment

Educational programs have become a focus for mature adults seeking information and new skills. Again, the course offerings are as diverse as the interests of

the local community.

Nutrition

Through the support of Older Americans' Act funds and the County, most centers offer a daily lunch program. Adults 60 years and over are eligible for this service. Home delivered meals programs for homebound seniors are also available.

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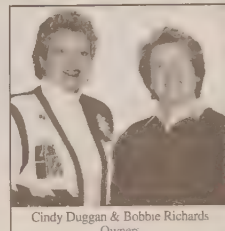
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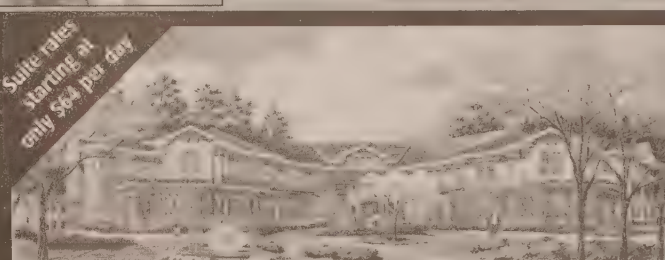
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Auto Plus

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Friday, March 15, 2002

Section D

Classic Classics: 1957 Mercedes beats out T-bird [D3]

CHERYL JENSEN
Down the Road

Prediction: Buyers will select smaller vehicles

MOTOR MATTERS
Between now and 2009, hundreds of thousands of Americans are saying good-bye to big sport vehicles and switching to smaller, more fuel-friendly automobiles.

That is one conclusion of a survey of auto industry executives conducted by the University of Michigan's Transportation Research Institute in Ann Arbor. Auto executives aren't the only ones who have noted a shift in the vehicle-buying habits of consumers.

Industry analysts also are finding that consumers are abandoning traditional, truck-like sport utility vehicles for "crossover utility vehicles" or SUVs, because these vehicles are more car-like in their handling and fuel economy. Comments from auto industry executives mark a "significant shift in consumer buying habits" but do not mean the end of large pickups and sport utility vehicles, said Bruce M. Belzowski, a research associate at the University of Michigan's Office for the Study of Automotive Transportation.

"The coming decade will bring a new, highly affluent group of buyers to the market, buyers who are environmentally conscious and who may not want to see what their parents do," Belzowski said.

The report, which is based on surveys conducted with more than 100 auto industry experts, predicts an increasing concern for the



WHILE DESIGN OF new Galant by Mitsubishi is unexciting, its other characteristics leave favorable impression, including uncluttered, clean interior styling.

Mitsubishi's new Galant stands out for performance

MOTOR MATTERS

The Mitsubishi Galant may have a modest appearance, but it is no milquetoast. It is one of the finest performing sedans in the 2002 mid-size market.

Upon first seeing the Galant, I found its styling bland and boring. Even though there are several new design elements to the exterior, the sedan remains unexciting.

However, the old saying, "don't judge a book by its cover" rings true in the case of the 2002 Mitsubishi. This sedan, equipped with one truly fantastic engine, made more of a

favorable impression on me once I drove it.

Combined with a smooth ride and effortless shifting from the automatic transmission, the Galant's technical characteristics overcome its aesthetic deficiencies.

The lineup comes in six distinct models: DE, ES, LS, ES V-6, LS V-6 and the GTZ. My test-drive model was the top-of-the-line GTZ.

Several exterior changes have been made to the Galant models, including a new split front grille with a larger Mitsubishi three-diamond chrome badge, revised rear tail-

CONNIE KEANE
Keane on Wheels

lamps, color-keyed bumpers and six-spoke aluminum alloy wheels designed for the LS V-6 and GTZ models. The interior is easy on the eyes — not filled with busy clutter or ornate gadgets — just clean, sweeping lines along the instrument panel, complemented by a spacious cabin.

Also redesigned for 2002 is the high-luminance instrument cluster

and trim panels in a titanium- or bronze-look finish. The GTZ model has a carbon fiber-look finish, conveying a sporty, high-tech appearance.

Galant has two powerplant selections: the 2.4-liter four-cylinder and the 3.0-liter V-6. The DE, ES and LS models have the smaller four-cylinder engine which develops 140 horsepower at 5,500 rpm and 155 pound-feet of torque at 4,000 rpm. Mitsubishi engineers worked on this powerplant so it now has a broader range of engine rpms, resulting in noticeable low-end responsiveness

and a great standing-start performance. Prices on the DE, ES and LS range from \$17,707 to \$21,117. On my test-drive of the 3.0-liter V-6 Galant GTZ, the engine demonstrates healthy power as soon as I push down on the gas pedal to quickly enter the highway or pass other traffic. Helping this 195-horsepower sedan deliver smooth speed is the impressive four-speed automatic transmission, which features an Adaptive Shift Control.

This system shifts to the driver's

See KEANE, Page D2

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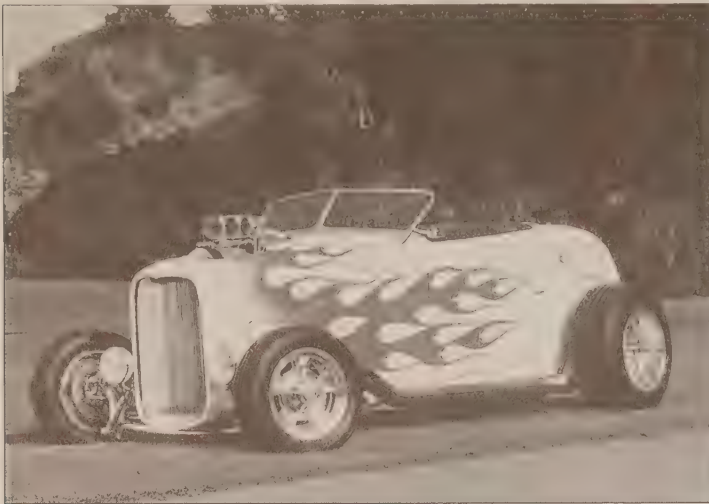
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THE 1932 FORD ROADSTER is one of the most popular hot rods in America. This style is called a "hi-boy" which means the fenders have been removed for better performance. Add a big shiny engine, hot licks (flames) and big back tires and you have a true American hot rod. This and other rods and custom cars will be on display next weekend at Alameda County Fairgrounds.

Goodguys celebrate 20 years of 'Getting Together' in Pleasanton

PLEASANTON — Twenty years ago this month, hot rodder Gary Meadors of Alameda County Fairgrounds decided to stage an event at the Pleasanton Fairgrounds which would welcome all car enthusiasts, regardless of age or car make, to bring their "pride and joy" out for a fun day of carmania.

The only stipulation or criteria was that the car must be American powered.

It worked like magic. Using his inherent promotional skills and good ol' elbow grease the event was a smashing success right from the start. Close to 500 car guys showed up in their rumbling rods, swapped stories, drank a few beers, and kicked tires, prompting Meadors to think "Man - this is kinda cool - I think we'll do it again next year."

Come March 23 and 24 at the same location, Meadors and the company he founded, the Goodguys Rod & Custom Association along with K & N Filters will "Get-Together" for the 20th time. Only now things are different.

This year's All-American Get-Together will attract 3,000 hopped up American-powered cars, thousands of automotive swap meet vendors, three buildings stuffed with megadollar show cars and manufacturer's exhibits, a Mecum collector car auc-

tion and 80, yes that's right, 80,000 spectators.

Goodguys under the guidance of Meadors have single-handedly turned the Alameda County Fairgrounds in Pleasanton into one of the world's foremost destinations for automotive enthusiasts.

Naturally, Meadors is humbled by the amazing growth of both Goodguys (30 full-time employees and 21 events throughout the country annually) and the Pleasanton "Get-Togethers" (of which there are now three annually).

"The first time we held this event back in 1983 we obviously had no idea it would turn into the giant event it has become today," said Meadors.

"It's a good time of the year to get out of the house after a long winter and blow out the carbon on the ol' hot rod. After a long winter, everybody has cabin fever and a day at the fairgrounds with 1,000s of cars and all the other stuff seems to be just what the doctor ordered."

This year's K & N Filters/Goodguys All-American Get-Together should be bigger than ever.

The event will be held rain or shine. In addition Goodguys is bringing back the heralded Mecum Collector Car Auction — an upper echelon auction which offers more than 100 premium rods and cus-

tomers for bidding and buying.

And there's a lot more to see.

If gawking at 3,000 customized automotive creations isn't what you're specifically into, fear not. The event also features a used auto parts swap meet with more than 2,500 sellers, a cars-for-sale corral with more than 800 cars for sale by private owners, manufacturer exhibits, live entertainment featuring Steve Oliver, exhibits and food.

But wait... there's more. Inside the spacious buildings is where the "star" cars are on display. They are entered in the indoor portion of the event to compete for the Street Rod d'Elegance and Custom d'Elegance awards.

Along with \$1,000 cash, bragging rights and a 4-foot-tall Loving Cup trophy are offered to the winning vehicles. Rod and custom stylings come in from all over the Western United States to compete for the prizes.

General admission is \$12; for ages 7-12, \$6. Tickets are only available at the gate. Fairgrounds parking is \$5. Event hours are next Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and next Sunday 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

For additional event information, call Goodguys 925-838-9876 or visit www.good-guys.com.

Forester, Lexus RX 300, Toyota RAV4, and Hyundai Santa Fe.

Although these CUVs look like traditional midsize sport utility vehicles and have four-wheel-drive, they differ because they have car-type unibody construction, instead of the more traditional truck-like body-on-frame or ladder-frame construction. They also get slightly better gas-mileage, largely because they weigh less than traditional SUVs.

There has been a big increase in demand for sport utility vehicles built with car components that give them a more comfortable ride and make them more fuel-efficient, said Paul Taylor, chief economist for the National Automobile Dealers Assn.

Another factor for their popularity is that more people are matching vehicles to their lifestyles and making more sensible choices. "If you need to tow 5,000 pounds, you need a body-on-frame, full-size SUV. But if the toughest road you travel on is gravel and you like to have four-wheel-drive when it snows,

these CUVs make an awful lot of sense. And if you have two small kids they make a tremendous amount of sense. But if you have four kids and camping gear, Expeditions and Excursions and Suburbans make sense," Taylor said.

Americans bought 919,869 CUVs during the first 11 months of 2001, representing an increase of almost 96 percent over the first 11 months of last year, according to Ward's AutoWorld, based in Detroit. Industry analysts generally agree we are going to see more crossover utility vehicles. "We're starting to see the changing of the guard," said Jeff Schuster, director of North American forecasting and product analysis for J.D. Power and Associates in Troy, Mich.

"Going forward we see quite a bit of growth, but it's certainly with the car-based products at the expense of the traditional SUVs," Schuster said. "That's where the growth is and where the majority of the future plans are."

Seat warmer keeps backside toasty

BY GARY MCCOY
MOTOR MATTERS

Unless you own a luxury car or fly south for the winter, you have probably plopped your backside onto a frosty cold seat this winter. However, with the enhanced version of the Universal Seat Heater from Rostra Precision Controls Inc. it is now possible to warm up the seats of virtually any vehicle.

The product was designed specifically for vehicles that did not come from the factory with heated seats, or for consumers who want to add heaters in the back seat.

The company says the Universal Seat Heater's elements warm up quickly and have "low" and "high" heat settings. The elements supply heat within 60 seconds to both the bench and lower back area of any seat in the vehicle, making the unit ideal for cold weather driving.

According to Thomas Weiss, Rostra's vice president of the automotive electronics group, convertible drivers can really enjoy the product because when the weather starts to turn crisp, the seat heater can let them keep the top down just a bit longer.

The Universal Seat Heater installs in about an hour or less, without seat removal. Available in both 12 and 24 volts, the system includes a three-year, 36,000-mile warranty and is made in the United States. It sells for a suggested retail price of \$99.95 each.

For more information or to locate a dealer near you, call Rostra's customer service at 800/782-3379 or visit www.rostra.com.

■ A remote starter allows you to warm up or cool off a vehicle before it's time to get in. Audiovox has unveiled the Prestige APS-975, a new remote start/auto security product.

The Prestige APS-975 remote start feature works up to 800 to 1,000 feet away, and it has a timed feature that starts the vehicle every two to four hours during a 24-hour period.

The device includes two triple-button confirmation transmitters, a



UNIVERSAL SEAT HEATER provides warmth for any vehicle.

triple-channel code-learning programmable receiver, an external superheterodyne receiver antenna, a compact six-tone siren and a parking light flasher.

The remotes are programmable for single-button lock/unlock or separate button lock/unlock for added security. The Prestige APS-975 sells for approximately \$500. For more information and availability, contact Audiovox at www.audiovox.com.

■ Osram Sylvania just recently unveiled the Xenarc HID X6054 Sealed Beam Upgrade Kit. This direct headlight replacement kit uses High-Intensity Discharge technology, which the company says will "provide three times more light than most factory halogen headlights for enhanced safety."

The kit will also improve peripheral vision and down-road visibility, and it provides a very white light."

According to Osram Sylvania, Xenarc HID bulbs last 10 times longer than halogen bulbs (up to 3,000 hours), while consuming only 65 percent of the power used by halogen.

The kit also includes an H1 halogen high beam. Osram Sylvania

says its kit is 100 percent legal, and it performs environmental standards.

The kit is easy for \$799. All Xenarc products are available at www.osram.com, or phone 800/438-2677.

■ The Indigo Sport is a unique new product. Glow. These racers actually feature a can be turned on at night. The pedal both automatic a des in nine exotic chrome or black colors.

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The Indigo Sport from \$64.99 to \$79.99. StreetView at www.streetview.com.

■ While you may be eating in your vehicle, Americans do anyway. The Travel Tray, a plastic

Tray, a plastic

Keane

FROM PAGE 1

style and is so in tune with the engine that there is only an imperceptible, quick, momentary reduction in power during the shifts; the driver does not detect hesitation or "gear hunting."

I have driven other higher-priced sedans that don't shift as efficiently as the Mitsubishi. The mating of the powerplant and the transmission is so well done that performance is by far the best feature in the Galant.

The tester's base price is \$24,157 and, as the top-of-the-line model in the Galant lineup, comes with a power glass sunroof, fog lights, heated mirrors and a special sport-tuned suspension, featuring a stiffer rear stabilizer bar, firmer-valved shock absorbers and higher-rate springs.

The smooth, quiet and comfort-

able ride of the Galant is the result of a four-wheel independent suspension.

A speed-sensitive rack-and-pinion steering system allows the wheel to rotate easily when the driver is pulling into a parking space, while at higher rates of speed the

driver feels a tight control through the steering.

tion control, anti-lock front-side-impact air dard on the GTZ

Strong may be a performance of the Americans do anyway. The Travel Tray, a plastic

MITSUBISHI GALANT

Vehicle Type	Five-passenger front-wheel drive
Suggested Retail Price as Tested	
Engine Type	SOHC 24-valve 3-liter V6
Horsepower	195 at 5,600
Torque	205 at 4,400
Transmission	Four-speed automatic
Wheelbase	
Tread	
Curb Weight	
Fuel Capacity	
Mileage	
Strong Feature	
Weak Feature	

Road

FROM PAGE 1

environment, with automakers offering more fuel-efficient vehicles that are also practical and meet consumer needs. The industry executives surveyed worked on the assumption that regular unleaded fuel would cost \$1.50 a gallon in 2009.

Study participants predicted that the percentage of small cars sold would rise from about 12.3 percent in 1999 to 13 percent in 2004 and 14 percent in 2009.

This group also predicted that the sales of smaller sport utilities, such as the Honda CR-V which comprised about 6.5 percent of all vehicles sold in 1999, would increase to 8 percent by 2004 and 9 percent by 2009.

In addition to the CR-V these smaller sport utility vehicles, which some have dubbed "crossover utility vehicles" include the Ford Escape, Chrysler PT Cruiser, Subaru

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Search for a Thunderbird leads to 1957 Mercedes-Benz

MOTOR MATTERS

Surdyk had been looking for a Thunderbird when he heard that such a car was going to be shown at the annual fall car show in Harrisburg, Pa. With cash in hand and a few friends for support, he drove to the October gathering.

The Thunderbird was there, but the similarity between it and the description of it was strictly coincidental. A disappointed Surdyk decided to pass on the T-bird. After returning home he decided to see what was available when he came across a chocolate-over-cream-colored Mercedes-Benz 220S cabriolet with a "for sale" sign. The elegant car was well-worn with 118,000 miles on the odometer.

It was late in the day when the owner asked Surdyk if he was interested. Surdyk responded by asking out several small deficiencies and saying the asking price was more than what he had in

mind to make an offer," the Mercedes-Benz owner invited. "I don't want to insult you," Surdyk replied, "but several such volleys, Surdyk finally pulled from his pocket a wad of cash he had brought to the Thunderbird. "That's not all," the owner said. "I agree," Surdyk said, "but that's all I have."

Thereafter the title was exchanged for the cash and Surdyk drove his way home with the wind in his hair. "It ran like a little clock," he recalls. "The only flaw that occurred on the way home was when Surdyk's

VERN PARKER
Classic Classics

wife, Patricia, called to see how the trip was going. Because Surdyk's cell phone was in the car his friends were driving behind him, they were the ones who broke the news to his wife about him buying the Mercedes-Benz.

"I was all set to be angry," Patricia said. She quickly changed her tune upon seeing the car coming up the driveway. "It was cuter than I thought it would be," she said. "It looked like it should be on a charm bracelet."

Surdyk did some research that disclosed that a total of 2,178 such cars were manufactured between 1956 and 1959. The 16-foot-long unit-body car is firmly welded to the floor-pan chassis.

A 1.3-liter, six-cylinder engine produces 112 horsepower, more than sufficient power to propel the 2,750-pound convertible on its 111-inch wheelbase.

Six liters of oil keep the engine lubricated while 11.3 liters of coolant keep the engine temperature under control. A downdraft carburetor feeds the engine from a 64-liter fuel tank.

"It's well put together," Surdyk comments. "It's logical to work on." The 6.50- by 13-inch tires were removed when Surdyk had the wheels powder-coated. At the same time the brakes, carburetor and clutch were all rebuilt.

In addition, the fuel tank was re-



MOTOR MATTERS

PURCHASE of this 1957 Mercedes-Benz cabriolet proved to be a worthy investment.

placed to prevent the debris in the old one from clogging the fuel line. A twist of a lever connects a reserve tank good for 20 or so miles.

Despite the fact that Surdyk drives the Mercedes-Benz only with the top down, he did have a new convertible top installed, covered most of the time with a boot secured by 22 snaps. The boot wraps around the cozy rear bench seat. Years of driving left behind a pit-

ted windshield that prompted Surdyk to replace the gracefully curved glass. The two windshield washers must be hand pumped before the liquid can be squirted onto the windshield.

Inside the leather- and wood-lined passenger compartment is a signal-seeking Becker AM/FM radio. The turn signals are activated by twisting the horn ring on the two-spoke steering wheel in the appro-

priate direction.

The spare tire stands upright inside the carpeted trunk. Some cars were equipped with two spare tires, one on each side of the trunk. When the car had a single spare — as on this car — the unoccupied wheel well was covered over and proved to be a handy place to store tire-changing tools.

Surdyk purchased the well-built Mercedes-Benz 220S cabriolet to

enjoy, not simply to display at car shows. He drives it as frequently as weather permits and is amazed that the handsome car can be turned within a 36-foot circle, nimbleness that rewards the driver in close quarters.

If you have a vehicle of interest to "Classic Classic" readers, write to Motor Matters, 4635 Bailey Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808-4109 detailing its merits.

Wrenches, fixing intermittent open circuit

WRIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS

Finally getting around to cashing in a gift certificate I received for a set of wrenches (my first). What's the best to spend on or 12-point, and what type of wrenches?

Tim Purdy, Santa Clara
I recommend a 12-point combination wrench set (open end on one side and on the other). Twelve-point wrenches aren't quite as sturdy as their cousins, but work better in tough areas.

Wrenches use the box end to break a fastener and for final tightening.

Wrenches

Food and beverages, is the perfect for in-vehicle dining.

Travel Tray includes a center cup hole with a cup adapter which allows for a cup of sizes from 8 ounces to 32 ounces. A 3/8-inch rim surrounds the outer edge of the tray, retaining spills and crumbs. Travel Tray sells for a suggested retail price of \$3.99. The product is available at most convenience stores, truck stops, stores, RV dealerships and camps. For more information, visit www.traveltray.com.

BRAD BERGHOLDT
Questions and Answers

Q I have an occasional problem with the fuel gauge in my '94 Dodge Grand Caravan. At times the gas gauge will indicate "E" and the "need fuel" indicator light will light up even though I have gas in the tank. There is no connection with the amount of fuel in the tank. It can even be full or a partial tank.

This has not caused me any real problem as I usually keep at least a half a tank of fuel and I always know about how much fuel I have. But it greatly concerns my wife when she uses the vehicle and this occurs.

Any helpful hints or should I just take it in for diagnosis and repair? I'm hesitant to do this, as I'm concerned the mechanic might just want to replace all the involved parts and sensors.

John Strockis, San Jose
It sounds like you're encountering an intermittent open circuit in the instrument panel, dark blue wire leading to the fuel tank sender or the sender itself.

Whether you elect to fix the problem yourself or take it to the shop, it would be helpful to narrow the search as much as possible.

In a case like this I like to take preparations in advance, then lie in wait for the problem to surface.

With the van safely elevated, check for a black four terminal connector near the fuel tank containing dark-green/black, dark-blue, violet/black, and black wires. Sneak a sewing needle into the backside of the dark-blue wire's connector cavity, so the point makes contact with the connector terminal.

Next time the fuel gauge goes to E, slip under the van and ground the needle to a metal chassis component, using a length of wire. If the gauge swings to full, the gauge, connections and wiring forward of the black connector are OK, and the fault should lie with the tank sender or top-of-the-tank wiring connector.

If the gauge fails to move (and you're sure of your connections), the fault will likely be a poor instrument panel connection.

Tricks and Tips

Tired of losing the little red spray tube from your WD-40 and Chemtool cans?

Reader John Boles offers a neat trick: Cut off a 3-inch length from a soda straw, and tape it to the side of the can, once near the top and again tightly at the bottom (so it pinches the lower end of the straw closed). You now have a receptacle to securely hold the can's spray tube.

Brad Bergholdt teaches automotive technology at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose. E-mail him at Bergholdt@Juno.com or write to him in care of Drive, Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95190. He cannot make personal replies.

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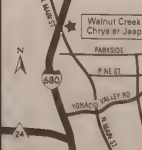
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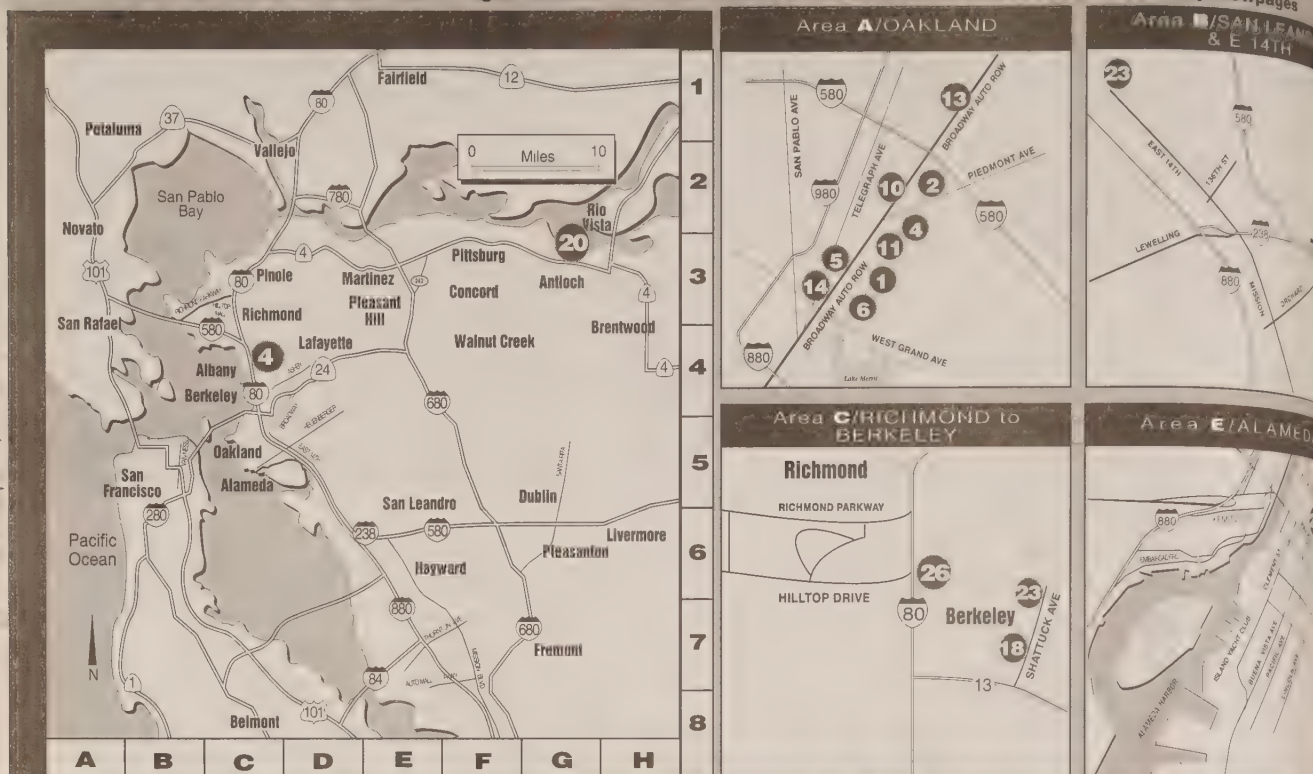
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Mac and Cheese goes modern

BY KRISTIN EDDY
CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Whatever you do to mac and cheese, it's always pretty good. It can be the plainest imaginable, or dolled up with meat and truffle oil, but the mac and cheese is always a pleasurable meal.

It's time when cozy, filling food is at the top of everyone's list of recipes. Macaroni and cheese—as a comfort food or a meal—warms the body and soothes the soul better than the wooliest of blankets.

Few people are content to eat what Mom used to make. Macs add their own touches, interesting cheeses, savory crumbs, maybe some vegetables or meat. Wherever you turn, someone is giving mac 'n' cheese a makeover.

A great variety of American mac and cheese recipes make macaroni even richer, although some look like layer flavors using sharp Cheddars to goat cheeses.

And that unless one uses a cheese with strong character, the blandness that is all too common in macaroni and cheese, "Macaroni & Cheese: 52 Recipes from Simple to Sublime," by Michael Dean Hazen of Rushmore restaurant in Chicago, finds that basic mac and cheese is better.

Turn them loose on a classic and each one comes up with something different," Schwartz said. "I wanted to make a starting point and

help them 'think outside the box,' " she said, referring to America's best-known macaroni and cheese, the one from Kraft.

Make it as inventive or humble as you choose; it will always be a great dish. "It defines comfort food," Schwartz said. "It smells good, it looks good. It takes you back to a time when you were taken care of and nourished. And it is comforting and soothing to cook."

Get that happy feeling back by making one of the recipes here, or challenge yourself by dressing up a family favorite. No one will leave the table dissatisfied. Unless, of course, you didn't make enough for leftovers.

ULTIMATE MACARONI AND CHEESE

1 package (1 pound) elbow macaroni

1 tablespoon butter

¼ cup white bread crumbs

2 cups whipping cream

½ teaspoon dry mustard

1 pound sharp white Cheddar cheese, shredded

¼ teaspoon each or to taste: kosher salt, freshly ground pepper

¼ cup chopped fresh parsley

1. Heat a large pot of salted water to a boil over high heat. Cook pasta until al dente, 10-12 minutes; drain. Meanwhile, heat butter in small saucepan. Add bread crumbs; cook, stirring, until lightly browned, about 2 minutes. Set aside.

2. Combine macaroni, cream and mustard in a large saucepan; cook over medium heat until hot, 3 minutes. Add cheese; stir to melt. Add salt and pepper. Place macaroni in serving bowls. Sprinkle with reserved bread crumbs and chopped parsley.

Preparation time: 15 minutes. Cooking time: 18 minutes. Yield: 8 servings

In this stovetop preparation, chef Michael Dean Hazen of Rushmore restaurant in Chicago prefers sharp white Cheddar cheese from Grafton Village, Vt., available at specialty stores or online at www.graftonvillagecheese.com/catalog/index.html.

MACARONI AND CHEESE WEDGES

Sauce:

2 tablespoons unsalted butter

3 tablespoons flour

1 quart milk

1 teaspoon salt

Freshly ground black pepper

Pasta:

1 package (1 pound) penne or gemelli pasta

3 cups shredded sharp Cheddar cheese

½ cup grated Parmesan cheese

1 teaspoon kosher salt

1 teaspoon ground white pepper

3 tablespoons unsalted butter

1 ½ cups panko (Japanese bread crumbs) or fresh bread crumbs

½ cup chopped fresh parsley

1. For the sauce, melt butter in a large saucepan. Add flour; cook 3 minutes, stirring occasionally. Whisk in milk. Heat to boil; simmer, stirring constantly, 5 minutes. Add salt and black pepper to taste. Set aside; keep warm.

2. Cook pasta in salted boiling water until al dente, about 7 minutes. Drain. Spread pasta on wax paper-lined cookie sheets. Cool 5 minutes.

3. Fold Cheddar, ¼ cup of the Parmesan cheese, salt and white pepper into the sauce. The cheese should not fully melt. Mix pasta into cheese mixture. Pack into a plastic-wrap-lined 8-inch-square baking pan. Chill until firm, 3 hours or overnight.

4. Melt butter in a small skillet. Add bread crumbs; toast until golden, 4 minutes. Mix with parsley and remaining Parmesan cheese. Pack onto the top of the macaroni.

5. Cut macaroni and cheese into desired shapes, such as triangles. Serve at room temperature or heat in microwave, 4-1½ minutes on medium high, or until melted and warm.

Preparation time: 15 minutes. Cooking time: 16 minutes. Chilling time: 3 hours. Yield: 6 servings

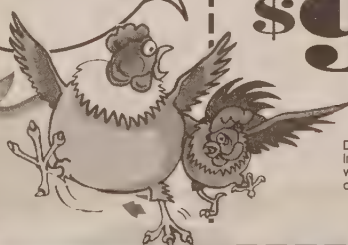
The beauty of this recipe, from

See MACARONI, Page 2



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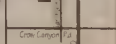
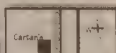
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Macaroni

FROM PAGE 1

chef Peter Repak, is that the macaroni and cheese can be made ahead, chilled, then cut into fun-sized individual shapes. They can be eaten cool or at room temperature or heated in the microwave. (They will collapse when reheated.) Kids will enjoy this one.

MACARONI AND CHEESE WITH BACON AND TOMATO

¾ cup bread crumbs
1 package (1 pound) cavatappi or penne pasta
2 tablespoons unsalted butter
3 tablespoons flour
½ teaspoon nutmeg
1 quart milk
½ teaspoon each, or to taste: salt, freshly ground pepper
½ pound each, shredded: Gruyere cheese, processed cheese (such as Velveeta)
1 pound bacon, cooked, crumbled
3 ripe plum tomatoes, diced
3 tablespoons olive oil
1. Heat oven to 350 degrees. Generously butter a 1 ½-quart baking dish. Add ¼ cup of the bread crumbs; shake to coat dish evenly. Heat large pot of salted water to a boil. Cook pasta until al dente, about 7 minutes. Drain. Place in

large bowl.
2. Melt butter in large saucepan. Whisk in flour; cook, stirring, 2 minutes. Add nutmeg; cook 1 minute. Whisk in milk all at once. Heat to boil; simmer, stirring, 5 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Remove from heat; stir in cheeses until melted.
3. Add sauce to pasta, mix well. Spoon ½ of the mixture into prepared baking dish. Add tomatoes and bacon in an even layer. Top with remaining macaroni mixture. Combine ½ cup of the remaining bread crumbs with olive oil in small bowl. Sprinkle over macaroni. Bake until golden and bubbly, 45 minutes.



BOB FILA/CHICAGO TRIBUNE
NEW YORK CHEF MATTHEW KENNEY mixes Wisconsin Asiago cheese with sharp white Cheddar and Parmesan in his casserole.

Preparation time: 20 minutes. Cooking time: 55 minutes. Yield: 8 servings

This recipe, developed by Mark Graham in the Chicago Tribune test kitchen, adds both color (from the tomatoes) and texture (crisp bits of bacon) to a macaroni and cheese base. You can experiment with other versions by stirring in chopped ham or chicken along with your favorite vegetables.

MACARONI WITH WISCONSIN ASIAGO

1 package (1 pound) rotini or cavatelli pasta
7 tablespoons unsalted butter
¼ cup flour
1 ½ cups milk
1 tablespoon Worcestershire sauce
2 teaspoons dry mustard
¼ teaspoon coarse salt
½ teaspoon each: ground red pepper, hot red pepper sauce
½ pound Wisconsin Asiago cheese, grated
6 ounces Parmesan cheese, grated
4 ounces sharp white Cheddar cheese, shredded
½ cup chopped parsley
1/3 cup minced fresh chives
1 cup panko (Japanese bread crumbs) or fresh bread crumbs, toasted
1. Heat the oven to 350 degrees. Heat a large pot of salted water to

a boil over high heat.
Cook pasta until al dente, 10-12 minutes. Drain; cool. Place in a large bowl.

2. Melt 5 tablespoons of the butter in a medium saucepan over medium-low heat. Add flour; cook, stirring, 3 minutes. Whisk in milk; raise heat to high. Heat to a boil; reduce heat to medium. Cook, stirring occasionally, until thickened, 6 minutes. Add Worcestershire sauce, mustard, salt, red pepper and hot pepper sauce.

3. Pour sauce over pasta; mix. Add Asiago, 1 cup of the Parmesan cheese, Cheddar, parsley and chives; toss to mix. Pour into a buttered 2 ½-quart baking dish. Mix bread crumbs with remaining Parmesan cheese in small bowl. Melt remaining 2 tablespoons butter in small saucepan; pour over bread crumbs. Toss to mix; sprinkle over pasta.

Bake until crumbs are lightly browned and sauce is bubbling, 40-50 minutes.

Preparation time: 20 minutes. Cooking time: 1 hour, 10 minutes. Yield: 8 servings

This recipe, adapted from "Macaroni and Cheese," by Joan Schwartz, comes from chef Matthew Kenney of Canteen restaurant in New York. Asiago, a semi-firm cheese with a slight bite, can be found at stores with large cheese selections.

Nigella Lawson: My reunion with the domestic goddess

BY FRANCES STEAD SELLERS

THE WASHINGTON POST

LONDON — English cooking is underrated, we're hardly known for our sex appeal, and our class system is something we have learned to play down, so it's quite a thrill to find Nigella Lawson, a friend from 20 years ago, whipping those ingredients into a sort of posh culinary porn.

She has sold more than 1.5 million cookbooks here, she's widely acclaimed to be one of Britain's most beautiful women, and now she's exporting her love to America. "Nigella Bites" is on E! Television and the Style Network.

As we sat across the worn wooden table in her London basement recently, a mug of tea in one hand and a glass of champagne in the other, I remembered how it felt to be the simple cuppa beside the intoxicating Nigella. We shared a not-much-cooked-in-kitchen for a year in the early '80s when we were undergraduates at Oxford.

I remember Nigella eating the occasional breakfast in the college hall, and I remember the teasing she sometimes wore when she went out to dinner. I remember a couple of short but serious discussions we had about essays for upcoming tutorials. But I don't remember her beating an egg, much less tossing a salad.

Now she deftly separates yolks from whites by filtering them between her fingertips; she tears lettuce and drizzles olive oil and lemon juice over it, distributing the liquids evenly over the leaves with her bare hands. She licks her fingers. She loves to take a bite.

Nigella's career includes 12 years of restaurant criticism, a bookish period as deputy literary editor of the Sunday Times. We have sporadically exchanged letters and e-mails. But I haven't been a regular viewer of her TV cookery show in England or America. So what, I want to know, is her success all about?

Despite the title of her second book — "How to Be a Domestic Goddess" (Hyperion, 2001) — Nigella insists she is no kitchen-sink diva. "It was meant to be ironic," she comments a little acerbically, thrusting the book's endpapers with her illustrations of aproned '50s housewives before me. And I can see what she means. Her recipes are not so much songs of praise for the simple virtues of the hearth as siren songs, tempting modern women to indulge in the "sheer pleasure" of her Goosey Chocolate Stack and the "aromatic succulence" of her baklava. Her cookery books are less instruction manuals than introductions to a way of thinking and a way of life. And that's also what you get on screen: Nigella makes food, and then tastes it and serves it; she puts to apply lipstick and flirts with her viewers.

For "goddess" then, read "vamp." Across the kitchen table, Nigella seems the same as ever, but on camera, she is the anti-Martha Stewart — dark and lusty, with a devil-may-care confidence about using full-fat cream and frozen peas. "People want you to be a perfectionist," she rails, "a professional." And those ideas have a momentum of their own, she continues, cementing a distinction that comes up time and again as we talk, between "what other people want you to be" and "what you really are."

She is not, she continues emphatically, a chef. "Not remotely." But apart from that undergraduate year in our kitchen, she's always cooked. And she's always loved to eat. She often has "birds" when she goes out to dinner with friends. "Otherwise people think I don't like it," she explains, unabashed by what she calls her "greed." "That's why I'm so fat." She's not fat — slimmer now than when I knew her.

Part of Nigella's success is that

she is riding a trend in Britain. Viewers are devouring celebrity cookery shows. There are three consecutive programs during prime time on one of Britain's four main channels. Four of the nonfiction bestsellers in the Times are cookbooks.

It's not as if Nigella is the only one to leave her presentation with sex. Jamie Oliver calls himself "the Naked Chef," and Antony Worrall Thompson peppers his presentation with lewd jokes.

Nor is Nigella Lawson Britain's best-selling TV cook. That distinction belongs to the no-nonsense Delia Smith, who has sold 15 million books and whose name now appears as a word in the dictionary.

So if "doing a Delia," I ask, means preparing a simple meal efficiently, what would it mean "to do a Nigella"? The answer is prompt: "Throwing yourself around the kitchen with voluptuous abandon," she suggests. Then adds, "something low on effort."

Her success, Nigella insists, stems from the fact that "it's good to see someone incompetent and hopeless." She's "on an anti-perfectionist crusade"; her kitchen has a lived-in, cluttered feel, and her bedroom, she says, looks like a jumble sale. Meanwhile, she struggles to keep order in the rest of her life. She cooks during the day, when her 8-year-old daughter, Cosima, and 5-year-old son, Bruno, are at school. And she writes after the children have gone to bed — filing one chapter at a time, like the journalist she's always been. She can't, she points out, make anything that takes weeks to prepare.

So, like the rest of us, she says, "I lurch from crisis to crisis." But even the crises in Nigella's life don't seem much like yours or mine. I think back to her mother's death three years after we graduated; her younger sister Thomasina's death eight years later, at the age of 32; and then, most publicly, that of her husband, John Diamond, who documented his own defeat from throat cancer in a series of mordantly witty columns in the Times.

Diamond died nearly a year ago. He hadn't eaten Nigella's food since his tongue was removed in 1998. Nigella stops me short. It is the smaller upsets she will talk about: The spinach thrown on the floor in irritation when you can't squeeze enough water out of it; the almond cake she broke. That cake was for her book — and she wouldn't let the cameramen reshoot, she says, because broken cakes are "what real life is like."

I can't help being struck by what hard work it must be to maintain some real life in Nigella's life. The questions I had planned to ask —

about the transformation of blue-stocking into gastro-goddess, about whether she is doing a disservice to our sex and education by luring women back into the kitchen — suddenly seem irrelevant. Instead, there's something liberating about Nigella's passion for what she does.

There's something impressive about the way she handles our conversation — part catch-up, part interview. And now that I see her again, without the film-crew perfection, her face is friendlier, more like the Nigella of 20 years ago than the porcelain chic I've learned to recognize as her in the photographs.

But there is one more thing I want to know. I repeat to her what an American friend recently said to me — that with her scale to weigh ingredients and her provocative finger-licking love of food, her cookery show may not go down very well with an American audience. "It may not," she says, a little defiantly. Yes, she's making some adjustments:

She shows me the stainless-steel cups hanging among her utensils and inscribes for me the American edition of her first book, where the

English weights have been converted and which ends with a list of U.S. sources for ingredients and equipment.

In the end, though, none of that matters much. We both know perfectly well what will go over well in America. And that has already taken on a momentum of its own. In the morning Annie Leibovitz will be arriving to photograph Nigella for American Vogue.

You've read the interview, now dive into the recipes from the domestic goddess, which are on page 4.

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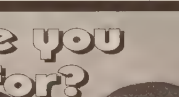
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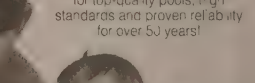
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VEAL WITH LEMON & CAPERS

- 4 veal scallops, about 4 oz. each
- All-purpose flour, seasoned with salt and pepper
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1 tablespoon oil
- 1 tablespoon unsalted butter
- 1 cup white wine
- 1/4 cup capers, rinsed and drained
- 1 cup chicken or veal stock
- 1/2 cup lemon juice
- 1/2 cup unsalted butter, chilled and cubed

■ Pound the meat with a mallet until it is 1/8 inch thick, then cut into thirds and coat with the seasoned flour. Put the beaten egg in a bowl and mix together with 2 tablespoons water. Coat the veal in the egg mixture, draining off any excess.

■ Preheat a T-Fal Perfection sauté pan until the Thermo-Spot pattern turns a solid brick red spot. Add the oil and heat; add the veal and cook, in batches, for 3-5 minutes, until golden brown on both sides. Drain on paper towels, cover and keep warm while cooking the other veal slices.

■ Pour off the oil from the pan, add the wine and capers and cook for 8 minutes, or until almost dry. Add the stock and cook for 5 minutes, or until reduced by half. Add 1 tablespoon lemon juice, then transfer the sauce to a small saucepan (keeping the sauté pan on one side). Whisk in the butter, without allowing the sauce to boil. Adjust the seasoning, adding more lemon juice if necessary.

■ Transfer the veal to the skillet, pour in the sauce, cover and leave for 2 minutes before serving. Serves 2

RATATOUILLE

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 4 cloves garlic, sliced thin
- 1 green bell pepper, sliced into thin strips
- 1 red bell pepper sliced into thin strips
- 1 yellow bell pepper, sliced into thin strips
- 1 large onion, sliced thin
- 1 (8-ounce) can tomato paste
- 4 vine-ripened plum tomatoes, seeded and diced

1 medium-sized eggplant (11/2 pounds), peeled and cubed
1 medium-sized zucchini, cubed
1/4 cup chopped flat leaf, Italian parsley
■ Preheat a T-Fal Perfection sauté pan until the Thermo-Spot pattern turns a solid brick red spot. Add oil and heat. Add garlic, peppers and onion and sauté five minutes. Add remaining ingredients except the parsley, mixing well. Cover and cook approximately 45 minutes or until vegetables are fork tender.
■ Add parsley. Taste and adjust for salt and pepper.
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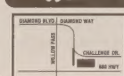
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Recipes from the 'domestic' goddess

THE WASHINGTON POST

EASY ALMOND CAKE

1 cup plus 2 tablespoons (about 14 ounces) marzipan at room temperature

18 tablespoons unsalted butter, plus additional for the pan

1/2 cup sugar

1/4 teaspoon almond extract

1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract

6 large eggs

1 cup self-rising flour, preferably cake flour, plus additional for the pan

10-inch springform tube pan or patterned ring mold, buttered and floured

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

Coarsely chop the marzipan to make it easier to break down. In a food processor fitted with a metal blade, process the marzipan, butter and sugar until combined and pretty well smooth. Add almond and vanilla extracts, process again. Add the eggs, 1 at a time through the funnel, processing again each time. Add the flour down the funnel, processing yet again, and then pour the mixture into the buttered and floured pan, scraping the sides and bottom of the bowl with a rubber spatula.

Bake for 50 minutes, but check after 40 minutes. Then, when the cake looks golden and cooked and a cake tester or fine skewer (or a piece of spaghetti) comes out cleanish, remove from the oven and leave to cool in the pan before turning out. (This is when you will be feeling grateful if it's the springform you're using.)

10 to 12 servings

Note: Marzipan is available at most grocery stores.

You could easily use a plain cake pan for this cake, but I always use my springform tube pan (not hard to find) because the particular scent and delicacy of this cake make it perfect as a dinner-party dessert with a few raspberries in the middle, a few

more scattered around the edge and a light dusting of confectioners' sugar. When we cooked it for the photograph in "How to Be a Domestic Goddess," we couldn't find the right pan (losing essential items is something of a specialty of mine), plus some of it stuck to the pan we did use. I could have made it again, but I didn't want to, because these things happen to all of us and I wanted to show it wasn't the end of the world. True, you don't see the molding as well as you might, if at all, but a quick bit of patching and some judicial sifting with sugar and it looked fine. Life isn't lived in a lab.

One gentle reminder here: you just will not get the marzipan to ooze into the cake batter if it starts off ice cold. In dire straits, I have cubed it and given it a quick whirl in the microwave. And if you wanted to replace the vanilla extract with the zest of an orange, I wouldn't mind in the slightest.

Excerpted from "How to Be a Domestic Goddess" by Nigella Lawson (Hyperion, 2001); from the Cakes chapter

CHOCOLATE-RASPBERRY TARTS

For the tarts:

1 cup plus 2 tablespoons cake flour, plus additional for working the dough

2 tablespoons cocoa powder

2 tablespoons sugar

1/4 teaspoon salt

8 tablespoons unsalted butter, cold

1 large egg yolk

1 tablespoon ice water

For the filling:

2 ounces white chocolate

1 cup plus 2 tablespoons mascarpone

1/3 cup plus 1 tablespoon heavy (whipping) cream

About 2 pints raspberries

4 to 6 tartlet pans (2 1/2-by-5 inches) with removable bottoms

For the tarts: Your best bet is to make the pastry in a food processor, so put the flour, cocoa, sugar and salt into the bowl and pulse to blend.

Cut the butter into small pieces and pulse with the flour mixture until it looks crumbly. Beat the yolk and ice water together and add it down the funnel. When the pastry starts to clump together, turn it out of the processor onto a lightly floured surface. Work it together with your hands and shape into 2 disks. Wrap each in plastic wrap and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes.

On a very lightly floured surface, using a rolling pin, roll out 1 of the dough disks to 1/4-inch thickness. It will be quite a dry pastry because of the cocoa, so don't be too heavy-handed with the flour on your rolling surface.

Then, using a tart pan as a guide, cut 2 or 3 rough circles about 3/4 inch larger than the pan. Ease the pastry into the pans — don't worry if the dough breaks, just patch it as best you can — and cut off the excess pastry. Do this with the remaining dough and freeze them until they feel frozen, about 30 minutes.

While the pastry is in the freezer, turn on the oven to 350 degrees and slip in a baking sheet to heat up at the same time.

Put the tartlets straight into the oven on the baking sheet, and cook for 10 to 15 minutes or until the pastry feels cooked and dry. The freezing plus the fact that the individual area is small means that they shouldn't puff up, which in turn means we're doing without the beans and all that blind-baking palaver.

Transfer the pastry shells to a wire rack to cool. When the pastry shells are cool, carefully slip them out of their pans.

While the pastry's cooking, you

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might melt the white chocolate for the filling, either in the microwave or in a double boiler.

To finish the filling, using an electric mixer or whisk beat the mascarpone and cream just until combined. Whisking constantly, slowly add the melted, slightly cooled, white chocolate. Go gently with your whisking: you don't want this too thick; however, a little extra unwhipped cream stirred in at the end will thin it down if necessary.

To assemble, fill the pastry shells with the cream mixture. Top with raspberries. Serve immediately.

4 to 6 servings

With their dark chocolate shells and their white-chocolate mascarpone filling, these look fancy enough, but when you eat them what strikes you is their cleanly balanced simplicity.

The almost dry bitterness of the cocoa-darkened pastry balances the rich, fat creaminess of the filling, which in turn is perfectly offset by the tart, neatly beaded berries.

I won't pretend that the chocolate pastry is that easy to work with. Yes, it does tear easily, but that doesn't matter, because it patches up perfectly too.

Maybe the first time you make these you should try to get just four little tarts out of the dough; later on, when you're more confident, you should be able to make six without trouble.

Excerpted from "How to Be a Domestic Goddess" by Nigella Lawson (Hyperion, 2001); from the Chocolate chapter

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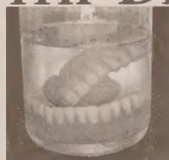
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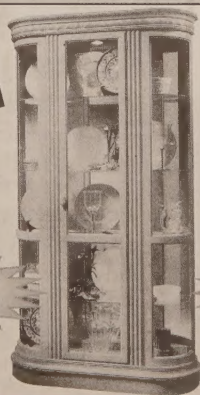
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